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 Sports, Page 1B



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VOLUME 23, NUMBER 33

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 1999

FIFTY CENTS

NEWS AT A GLANCE

Rename detoured

A proposal to rename Collinsville Avenue for the late Wayne Lanter Sr. hit a snag after the two black members of the Madison City Council objected.

Alderman Ted Ostrenga had made a motion to rename the street, but Aldermen Norris Horton and Roselle Williams-Gardner protested, saying Lanter "had not been sensitive" to the needs of the city's black residents.

Lanter, a Belleville businessman who started as a milkman and built his company into one of a half-dozen "national players" in the specialty warehousing and distribution business, died Feb. 23, 1998.

"I think it's going to cause a lot of hard feelings," Horton said.

Carrier deal surprises museum

An agreement between the federal government and a St. Louis-based company over an armored carrier that was part of the Armed Forces Museum of St. Louis has come as a surprise to museum officials.

On Tuesday, U.S. Attorney W. Charles Greathouse announced in a press release that his office and Systems and Electronics Inc. of St. Louis had agreed that the company would relinquish possession of a prototype M113 Armored Personnel Carrier to the U.S. Department of Defense. The vehicle had been on loan to the museum and was housed at the Charles Melvin Price Support Center in Granite City. As far as I know, it's still at the Price Center," said Retired Civil Air Patrol Capt. C.W. Venable, director of the museum. "We're in the dark."

Court order halts store's sale

A Granite City furniture store is trying to hold a going-out-of-business sale, but an area bank has other ideas.

Granite City Home Furnishings was holding the sale Monday when Sheriff's deputies and Granite City police rolled up, armed with repossession orders from Mercantile Bank. The officers ordered a halt to the sale and seized assets from the store.

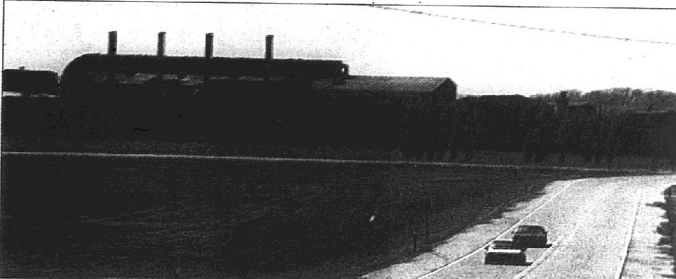
Court records in the Madison County Circuit Clerk's office show that Mercantile Bank has filed suit to recover nearly \$70,000 on a loan. The store opened at 1842 State St. on Dec. 10, 1995.

Signal red-lighted

A majority of aldermen at Tuesday's night's Granite City Council meeting did not give the green light for the construction of a fully signalized intersection to be built at Fehling Road and Yale Drive.

A recent IDOT ruling has triggered a council debate whether or not to have the signalized intersection built.

Supervisor knew of investigation



Officials with Chemetco Inc., located at the intersection of Illinois Route 3 and Poag Road, were recently indicted for violations of the U.S. Clean Water Act.

Polley concerned about pollutants

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

Chouteau Township Supervisor Pat Polley said she has known about an ongoing investigation into allegations that Chemetco has been illegally dumping heavy metals into Long Lake for some time and is concerned about potential contamination.

However, a spokesman for the Illinois Environmental

Protection Agency said that plans to deal with the contamination are now before the Illinois

Pollution Control Board and soil samples are being analyzed to see how widespread the problem is.

Chemetco and six individuals were indicted Wednesday

on charges of conspiracy and violations of the Clean Water Act for allegedly constructing a secret pipe and dumping pollution into Long Lake over a 10-year period. Previously, another man had pleaded guilty to earlier charges.

The new indictments allege that from about September 1986 to September 19, 1995, the facility discharged pollutants including zinc, lead and cadmium into the lake. That portion of Long Lake is cut off by Interstate 270 from the rest of the lake.

Polley said she has been aware of the investigation "for quite some time."

"Maybe a month or so ago, they put a boat in and have

See CHEMETCO, Page 6A

Greathouse dead at 78

MESD head had attracted controversy

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

Walker "Shang" Greathouse, who ran the Metro East Sanitary District for almost two decades, died Thursday at Colonnades Nursing Home in Granite City.

Greathouse, 78, died at 1:30 a.m.

No cause of death was listed.

ed, but he had been in poor health for some time.

Greathouse served as execu-

tive director of the MESD from 1984 until heart surgery forced him to retire early last year.

Mae Warfield, who took over for Greathouse at MESD, said Greathouse was a "good little guy" who would be missed.

"He did a lot for the levy district," Warfield said. "He was a hard-working little guy. He had his heart and soul involved in his work down

See GREATHOUSE, Page 5A

Immunization plan opposed

Bill would allow parents to opt out of state's mandatory program

By Curtiss A. Hartley
 Staff writer

Ray Romine urged fellow Madison County Board members Wednesday to oppose a bill that would allow students' parents to opt out of the state's mandatory immunization program.

The measure is being considered by the Illinois

Senate. Romine, D-Granite City, encouraged County Board members to ask legislators to kill the bill.

"Call them before April 28," Romine said. "The bill is due to come out of committee by then."

Dr. Tom Fegley, superintendent of Unit 10 Schools in Collinsville, said he also is opposed to this type of bill.

"Let me respond as a citizen and not just a superintendent," he said. "I would be opposed to that bill. There are

already exceptions for religious and medical reasons, and that's all that's needed."

Fegley said more was at stake than just individual rights. There were serious health matters to consider.

"Immunization is not just protection for the individual, but it protects all society from those illnesses. If people stop getting immunized, then there will likely be a recurrence of those diseases," he said.

See IMMUNIZATION, Page 6A

Denham cleans house at first meeting

New mayor names chief, attorney

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

In addition to a new mayor, clerk and three trustees, the village of Pontoon Beach also has a new police chief and attorney.

There were no surprises at a special meeting of the Village Board Thursday night.

New Mayor Jim Denham appointed Sgt. Gary Wallace as police chief, replacing Michael Crouch, who will revert to his old rank of captain.

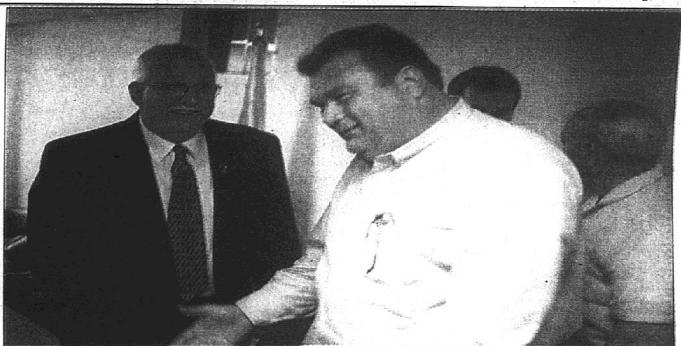
Denham also replaced

Village Attorney Brian Polinske with Eric Evans and abolished several positions, all held by supporters of ousted Mayor Glen Wilson, who did not attend Thursday's meeting.

Outgoing Village Clerk Mary Powell swore in new clerk Susan Daugherty, who then swore in Denham and Trustees Lowell Travis, Mike Pagano and Lee Ridgeway.

They replace outgoing trustees Randy Presswood, who came in second in the mayoral race, and Gus Falter and Irene Karlechik, who did

See PONTOON, Page 6A



New Pontoon Beach Mayor Jim Denham, left, talks to Trustee Bob Vincent after Thursday's special meeting.

New vision procedure helps correct moderate nearsightedness

By Nicole Vaughn
 Staff writer

Two years ago, Joanne Evans was constantly wrangling with her glasses.

Evans' job as a paramedic

with the Mehlville (Mo.) Fire Protection District keeps her on the move. Unfortunately for her, her glasses were, too.

"They were always sliding off my nose," Evans recalled. "Rain, snow, ashes - that all can mess up the lenses. It can be really problematic."

All that changed in April

1997 when Evans became part of a clinical trial for a new procedure to correct nearsightedness called Intacs. It uses tiny, clear "ring segments" that reshape the cornea.

Keravision's Intacs gained FDA approval earlier this month after an investment of

more than 13 years and nearly \$100 million. The procedure is available at a handful of medical centers across the United States, including Eyes of Illinois Surgery Center in Maryville and the NovaMed Eye Surgery Center in north St. Louis County.

Dr. Steven Verity, a board-

certified ophthalmologist and an assistant professor of ophthalmology at Saint Louis University, began his trials at SLU in 1993. Verity is one of 10 surgeons - only four of which are in the United States and the only one in the St. Louis

See PROCEDURE, Page 6A

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 Scott Connell, Meteorologist
 KSDK TV, NewsChannel 5 Weather Source Team

Sunday 71/54	Monday 73/57	Tuesday 77/59	Wednesday 76/57
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Granite City Journal

INDEX

Car Care.....	1D	Obituaries.....	5A
Classified.....	1C	Regional News.....	3A
Entertainment.....	9A	Social.....	7A
Local News.....	2A	Sports.....	1B

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Police Blotter

Granite City Police

POSSESSION OF A STOLEN VEHICLE: Trevon Williams, 25, of 1516 Second St., Madison, was charged Monday with fleeing and eluding police, resisting a police officer and possession of a stolen vehicle.

An officer equipped with a radar gun registered a maroon vehicle occupied by Williams speeding in the northbound lane near the North Street overpass about 3 a.m. According to a Granite City police report, the vehicle was clocked at approximately 80 miles per hour.

As the officer pursued the vehicle with emergency lights, a chase ensued along Illinois 3. While turning right on the westbound ramp heading toward I-270, the vehicle driven by Williams flipped over twice before landing in a grassy area of the highway.

Emergency personnel responding to the scene pulled two passengers from the vehicle. They were shaken, but not seriously injured. Both were transported to St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

Williams, bleeding from the head, was able to remove himself from the vehicle, but resisted arrest. He was eventually handcuffed, taken to the medical center and later released into police custody.

An investigation revealed that the vehicle was stolen from a car dealership in St. Louis.

OUTSTANDING WARRANT: Jessica Meyers, 29, of 3707 Kirkpatrick Homes, Granite City, was arrested Thursday evening on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear for unlawful possession of cannabis.

POSSESSION OF CANNIBAS: Charlene Bouquet, 21, was charged Thursday for unlawful possession of cannabis.

According to a Granite City police report, Bouquet was a passenger in a car pulled over about 11:30 p.m. While questioning the driver about reckless driving, the responding officer allegedly noticed Bouquet moving things about in the back seat.

While she was searched, a glass pipe was allegedly found in her bib pocket. She and the driver were taken into custody.

The driver was arrested for driving with a revoked license.

FAILURE TO APPEAR: Mark Trexler, 35, of 4941 Redwood, was arrested Friday morning on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear for driving with a suspended license.

Trexler was taken into custody about 11:30 a.m. Madison County Sheriff's Department.

WARRANT ARREST: Lisa D. Ferraric, 32, of the 500 block of Thorgate in Granite City, was taken into custody by the Madison County Sheriff's Department on an active warrant for failure to appear on a retail theft charge from the Granite City Police Department after a traffic stop at 7 p.m. April 8 in the 3100 block of W. Chain of Rocks Road.

Ferraric allegedly was traveling 48 mph in a 35 mph zone.

DUI: Darlene Brown, 33, of the 100 block of St. Christopher in East St. Louis, was charged with driving under the influence, failure to signal when required and operating an uninsured motor vehicle after a traffic stop at 6:36 a.m. April 10 at Jefferson and Klen Street in Venice.

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Health care industry faces challenges, Eilerman says

SEMC president speaks at Rotary Club breakfast

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

While "tremendous" improvements in health care at St. Elizabeth Medical Center have been made in the past 30 years, the hospital — along with the entire health care industry — faces "significant challenges" in the future.

SEMC President and CEO Ted Eilerman was the speaker at this month's Granite City Rotary Club prayer breakfast, held Wednesday at the hospital.

He said higher costs, lack of insurance and second-guessing by insurance companies and health maintenance organizations are some of the major problems.

"We have the world's best health care, but we can't afford to give it to everybody," he said. "We have the best care in the world; the problem is we can't deliver."

"It's sad to say that in our booming economy, you have 43 million people who are uninsured. We are the last major industrialized country that does not provide health coverage for everybody."

He added that SEMC, which serves a large number of poor people, is seeing a growing number of uninsured people. He said a major question is whether health care is a "right" or something that the free market should provide.

"If it's a right, we are not doing our job. If free market, it's not doing its job," he said. He said that while costs are increasing, the federal

government is not increasing payments, meaning that some programs will eventually have to be dropped.

He specifically mentioned home health care and hospice programs as likely targets of budget cuts sometime in the future.

He also said that hospitals have a "poor" image. "The public perception throughout the country is that we are inefficient," he said. "Somehow, we have to convince the American public that we are doing a good job and that they get value for their money."

He said cost-cutting is also affecting doctors, who have to ask permission from HMO's before running tests and "are not permitted to tell you that an insurance company has denied their request."

Eilerman also said the cost of prescription drugs is escalating to the point where people have to decide between their medications or food.

In one case, Eilerman said a man was told his medications would cost about \$300 per month.

He said to make a decision to take these \$300 worth of drugs or put food on the table, Eilerman said.

The man walked out without the medicine, which will eventually mean more cost to the hospital when the man comes back to the emergency room.

"It's going to show up in the emergency room in a crisis situation," Eilerman said. About one-third of all emergency room visits are from people not taking their



Ted Eilerman

medication, he said.

Despite all the problems in health care today, he said SEMC is providing good service and has made improving quality a priority.

"Quality is the number one issue," he said. "We are doing quality every day and we monitor every case."

In the early 1970s, he said they had about 25. That has increased to more than 150 at this time.

"Tremendous resources have been brought to this community," he said. "Recruiting physicians is the most significant thing we've done."

Attention Kmart Shoppers
In Kmart's April 25, 1999 weekly ad circular, on page 20, features the computer software title "Unreal Tournament." This item will not be available due to the manufacturer's delay in shipping. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our customers.



GCHS student driver crashes; none hurt

A car driven by a 16-year-old Granite City High School student crashed into a car parked at a stop sign on Maryville Road and Illinois 203 Monday morning. The accident created a chain reaction in which two other cars were struck. The 1986 Ford Taurus was driven by Jamie Cassidy, who was taking part in GCHS' driver's education

program. No one was seriously injured in the incident. Al Lewis Jr., 55, was the driving instructor with Cassidy and another student. He has been part of the school's driver's education program at various times for past 35 years. The cause of the incident is still being investigated.

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Granite car stickers now on sale

Granite City motor vehicle stickers are now on sale at City Hall in the City Clerk's office.

Car stickers are \$5, motorcycle stickers \$3 and trucks one ton and under \$10. Vans and RVs are \$5. Stickers obtained by senior citizens, which are limited to

one sticker per vehicle and family, are \$1.

Besides City Hall, stickers can be obtained at the Union Planters Bank building downtown and the branches in Ballwin, Village and on Maryville and Ponton roads, and at First Bank, 3600 Nameoki Road.

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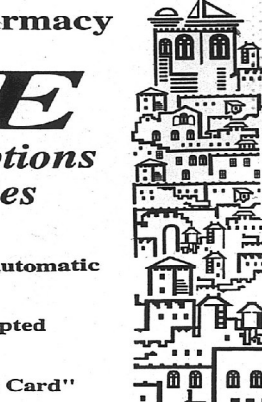
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Madison block grant public hearing scheduled for May 4

Money may allow warning system upgrade

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A public hearing on Madison County Community Development block grant proposals for the city of Madison will be held at 6 p.m.

May 4 at City Hall. The city is applying for \$125,000 in grants, possibly to update its storm warning system.

Madison Mayor John Hamm said the city is working in conjunction with Granite City and Venice to improve the storm warning system. Hamm also said that the city would be seeking additional grants to pay the \$12,500 matching

The city of Madison is working to improve the storm warning system.

cost of the Community Development Grant. The council also approved a new process for accepting police officer candidates by the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners. The new process will include having potential candidates come to an orientation session, where they will receive their application.

In the past, people were given applications immediately, but most did not submit them. The city is preparing to accept applications for its new police department eligibility list.

The city is also stepping up recruitment efforts for minority and women candidates, including publishing in additional newspapers and sending flyers out to local churches.

In other business, the council approved allowing the Venice-Madison American Legion to hold Poppy Day at Union Planters Bank and the Garden Shop. The council also approved allowing the 12th Street Raceway Saloon to have a roadblock for multiple sclerosis at the intersection of 12th and Madison May 8.

Counseling program takes on even more significance

Service for students in place for past 10 years

By Mike Holl
Staff writer

The Granite City School District has been using a program for the past 10 years to help students cope with the

everyday pressures of life. That program now has more significance in the wake of the massacre that occurred Tuesday at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

The program is called School Consultation Services. It offers students counseling from professional therapists affiliated with Behavioral Health Systems of St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

"It has been successful. It is especially needed today to help our youth overcome difficulties they face but cannot cope with," said Richard Boswell, director of Behavioral Health Systems at SEMC.

"It has been successful. It is especially needed today..."

Richard Boswell
SEMC Behavioral Health Systems

Counseling is free and offered to students at Granite City and Collinsville high schools, Grigsby and Coolidge middle schools and North Junior High School in Collinsville. Therapists are on staff at the schools so students can speak to them immediately in time of need.

Harriet Grazman, a licensed clinical social worker, is the School Consultation Services director. Grazman, who counsels students at GCHS, designed and implemented the program in 1986, when she was an educator.

Grazman said that a wide variety of teenagers are referred to the therapists.

They are, she said, of all ages and experience anything from depression to grief or suffer the effects of some type of physical abuse at home. If their needs are more extensive than therapists can provide, Grazman said, they are referred to a hospital or to their primary physician.

"Our goal is to enhance their emotional well-being and coping skills," Grazman said.

Grazman went on to say that since services are provided in schools, and not in hospitals, students are less stigmatized in that they are more familiar with their school environment than they are with a hospital environment.

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Area rabies clinics set through May

Dr. Timothy L. Holt, Dr. Jeanie Spooner and the staff of Bellefonte Animal Hospital PC have scheduled the annual rabies clinics for 1999.

Vaccinations will be available for both dogs and cats.

Dates, locations, and prices are as follows:
Saturday, May 1: 2 to 4 p.m.
at the Humane Shelter,
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3), Granite City.
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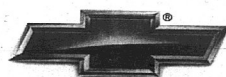
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Mary

Greathouse dead at 78

Continued from Page 1A

here. "A lot of people really liked Shang, he knew how to get along with people. He was a happy-go-lucky guy. He is going to be missed."

Greathouse was first appointed to the MESD Board of Directors in 1977 and became president in 1980.

During his tenure, Greathouse was no stranger to controversy. The MESD is responsible for controlling stormwater over a large portion of the American Bottoms area and was considered one of the last great strongholds of political patronage in the Metro East area.

Greathouse was also criticized for his handling of flooding in East St. Louis. He always defended the district, saying that it was originally designed when most of the area it served was agricultural and it simply did not have enough money or equipment to provide the necessary services.

He remained controversial



Shang Greathouse

after retiring from MESD. While a resident of the nursing home, he was being paid as a consultant to the district, even though a doctor said he was too ill to testify in court. The payments were stopped after they became public knowledge.

In addition to his work with the sanitary district, Greathouse worked in area warehouses, liquor companies and real estate offices. He was named Realtor of the Year in 1977. He is survived by his wife, Mildred Greathouse, three sons, Walter D. Greathouse Jr. of Granite City, Brian Greathouse of Collinsville and Scott Greathouse of Edwardsville; and three grandchildren.

Greathouse was a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, DAV, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge and St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Funeral services were held Saturday at St. Elizabeth Church.

Obituaries

William Elliott

WILLIAM L. ELLIOTT, 77, died Sunday, April 18, 1999, in Granite City. Mr. Elliott was born Aug. 15, 1921, in Stewart County, Tenn. He was a retired factory worker and a World War II veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Clarence (Burkhardt) Elliott; two sons, Tony and Roger Elliott, both of Granite City; two daughters, Peggy Smith of Granite City and Janet Dunaway of Collinsville; two brothers, Larry Elliott of Indiana and, Tenn., and Dean Elliott of Dover, Tenn.; one sister, Margie Wallace of Tumpan, Miss.; and 11 grandchildren.

Services were held at Anglin Funeral Home in Dover, Tenn., with Maxie Millikin officiating.

Walter Greathouse

WALTER D. "SHANG" GREATHOUSE, 78, of Granite City, died Thursday, April 22, 1999, at Colonnades Nursing Home in Granite City.

Mr. Greathouse was born Dec. 15, 1920, in Granite City. He was retired as executive director of the Metro East Sanitary District and previously worked at several area warehouses, liquor companies and as a realtor. He was a member of Granite City Lodge 1063, Tri-City American Legion Post 113, VFW Post 1300, AMVETS, DAV, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge and St. Elizabeth Catholic Church and was Tri-City Realtor of the Year in 1977. Mr. Greathouse was a U.S. Army staff sergeant and served during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred (Hagan) Greathouse, whom he married July 31, 1948; three sons, Walter Greathouse Jr. of Collinsville and Scott Greathouse of Edwardsville; and three grandchildren, Brian Greathouse of Granite City, Walter Greathouse of Collinsville and Kelley Greathouse. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Edith (Lubold) Greathouse; and one daughter, Carol Greathouse.

Services were held Saturday, April 24, at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Granite City, with the Rev. Thomas Liebert officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon. Memorials may be made to St. Elizabeth Catholic Church Building Fund or Hospice of Madison County, or in the form of Masses. Irwin Chapel handled the arrangements.

Harrison "Gene" Hooker

HARRISON "GENE" HOOKER, 65, of Pontoon Beach, died Wednesday, April 21, 1999, at his residence. Mr. Hooker was born Sept. 4, 1933. He retired as a forklift operator at Tomboy's, a member of Teamsters Local 638 and AARP and of the Catholic faith.

Survivors include his sons, David and Patrick Hooker, both of Granite City; and James Hooker of Collinsville; four daughters, Kathleen Korte of Godfrey, Mary Beth Evans and Cheryl Patrick, both of Granite City; and Linda Curless of Sedalia, Mo.; 15 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan (Otec) Hooker, his parents, Benjamin and Meg (Lord) Hooker; one brother, Robert Hooker; and one sister, Betty Perigo.

Services were held Saturday, April 24, at Warner Chapel in Granite City, with the Rev. Francis officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

ORA MAE NOEL, 84, of Granite City, died Thursday, April 22, 1999, at Rosewood Care Center in Edwardsville.

Mrs. Noel was born Aug. 9, 1914, in Cadiz, Ky. She was a homemaker and a member of West 22nd Street Baptist Church and Women's Missionary Union.

Survivors include her daughter, Joanne Coakley of Granite City; one son, David Noel Sr. of Granite City; one sister, Hodgeline Gray of Cadiz, Ky.; 13 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Rudolph Noel; her parents, Ira and Iva (Baker) Stallons; one brother, Layton Stallons; one grandson, James Kendall; two sisters, Adeline Stallons and Sylvia Dell Kendall; one foster son, Harri Kendall; and one sister, Lucille Noel.

Services were held Saturday, April 24, at West 22nd Street Baptist Church in Granite City, with the Rev. Les Atkins officiating. Burial

was in Valley View Cemetery in Edwardsville. Memorials may be made to West 22nd Street Baptist Church. Thomas Memorial Mortuary handled the arrangements.

Gregory Sarich

GREGORY A. SARICH, 43, of Granite City, died Wednesday, April 21, 1999, at St. Mary's Health Center in Clayton, Mo.

Mr. Sarich was born Dec. 27, 1955, in Granite City. He was a control specialist in the main plant at Granite City Steel for 25 years and was a member of West 22nd Street Baptist Church, United Steelworkers of America Local 68, Boy Scouts of America as a Cubmaster, was a trustee of the church and was former little league baseball coach in the Granite City Park District.

Survivors include his wife, Vickie (Smith) Sarich, whom he married Aug. 30, 1975; one son, Gregory Sarich, at home; one daughter, Kristina Sarich, at home; two brothers, John Sarich of Edwardsville and Jeffrey Sarich of Austin, Texas; and two sisters, Lisa Sarich of Austin, Texas, and Linda Sarich of Manchester, Mo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Betty (Lauderhill) Sarich; and one son, Thomas Sarich.

Services were held Saturday, April 24, at Thomas Memorial Mortuary in Granite City, with the Rev. Las Atkins officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to West 22nd Street Baptist Church Building Fund or the family.

VERGIE (HENSELY) SPALDING, 95, of Granite City, died Thursday, April 22, 1999, at St. John's Mercy Medical Center in Creve Coeur, Mo.

Mrs. Spalding was born Feb. 5, 1904, in Ibra, Mo. She had been a registered nurse at City Hospital in St. Louis and was a charter member of Nameoki United Methodist Church, where she served many years as a chairman in the Lydia Circle, was a Sunday School Teacher, a member of the official board and pastor parish committee. More recently, she has been a member of Granite City Freewill Church and volunteered for the New Clothing Center, Church Women United, The Salvation Army and the Senior Center and was also a past president of Clover View Garden Club and a member of the Elude Music Club.

Survivors include her son, Dr.

Donald Spalding Jr. of Creve Coeur, Mo.; one daughter, Alice Henson of Jefferson City, Mo.; three grandsons, Stephen Spaulding of Dallas, Texas, Donald Spaulding of Richmond, Va., and Gary Henson of Manhattan, Kan.; one granddaughter, Kathryn McLeod of St. Louis; and three great-grandchildren, Garret Henson of Manhattan, Kan., and Michael and James McLeod of St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Hensley; her first husband, Donald Spaulding Sr.; her second husband, D. Francis Spaulding; one brother, Herman Hensley; and one sister, Laura Fahnestor.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 26, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City.

Services will be held Tuesday, April 27, at the funeral home, with the Rev. Eddie Linhart officiating. Private family services will be held at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to Granite City FourSquare Church, 2633 Grand Ave., Granite City.

LILLIAN C. (EUGEN) WIESEHAN, 93, of Granite City, formerly of Venice, died Thursday, April 22, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Mrs. Wiesehan was born March 19, 1906, in St. Louis. She was a homemaker and was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church. Survivors include her sons, Harold Wiesehan of Florissant, Mo., and David Wiesehan of Granite City; 11 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Wiesehan; her parents, John and Ida (Ulrich) Euge; one son, Edward Wiesehan; three brothers, four sisters, one grandson, and two great-grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday, April 24, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Granite City, with the Rev. Bill Fisherkeller officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to Holy Family Catholic Church. Thomas Memorial Mortuary handled the arrangements.

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Eye Health Advisory

D.C. Schnellmann, MD - E.A. Doisy, III, MD - W. Y. Chen, MD - M. A. Yates, OD

Laser Pointers

What you need to know about laser pointer safety

by Mark A. Yates, OD
Illinois Eye Specialists

Recently we have received many questions regarding the use and safety of laser pointers. The information below is designed to help answer any questions you may have about the safety and correct use for laser pointing devices.

Certain types of laser pointers can present a significant risk for eye damage if shined directly into a person's eye. A person exposed to the laser beam from a pointer can experience temporary vision dysfunction, flashblindness, afterimages and glare. While most permanent effects such as retinal burns are less likely, directly staring into a laser pointer can pose significant visual risk to a person's eyes, including a permanent loss of vision.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has warned parents that laser pointers are not a toy and should not be used by children and teenagers. There are some common sense rules to keep in mind when using laser pointers. Laser pointers should never be pointed at another person, in a mirror or at a glass object that could cause a reflection of the beam, and one should never stare directly into a laser pointer. Laser pointers should be used for pointing out inanimate objects and for instructional purposes only. To avoid misuse, always remove the batteries from a laser pointer when it is not in use.

Safe use and common sense are the best ways to prevent eye injuries from a laser pointer. If you would like to receive a list of laser pointer safety guidelines please call one of our offices listed below.

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Area officials oppose immunization bill

Continued from Page 1A

In the Unit 10 School District, if proper procedures to be excused from immunization for religious or health reasons weren't followed, the student can't enroll. Fogley said that only happens a couple of times a year.

At Wednesday's County Board meeting, member Bill Little, D-Alton, proposed that Madison County Administrator Jim Monday write a letter to the Illinois Association of County Boards asking that its lobbyist actively oppose Senate Bill 823. That motion was approved unanimously.

Romine, chairman of the county's Health Department

Committee, said the bill was being sponsored by state Sen. Patrick O'Malley, R-Peot.

Romine said O'Malley gave an impassioned speech to the Senate when he proposed the bill.

O'Malley was crying, and several others on the Senate floor were, too," Romine said.

O'Malley's daughter suffered a bout of hepatitis B, and O'Malley was convinced that it was brought on by an inoculation, Romine said.

The bill would allow a parent or legal guardian to ignore state-mandated immunizations on the basis of a "conscientiously held belief," Romine said. Current state law allows exemptions for religious or

medical reasons. "Conscientiously held belief" is defined in the bill as "... a deeply held moral sense of right and wrong used as the guide to making a decision or taking an action."

The bill faces vigorous opposition if and when it makes it out of committee, said Alice Foss, legislative liaison for the Illinois Department of Health. Associations and the Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators.

"There's enough teeth in the current law that if the parents don't want the child immunized, they can use the religious or medical exemptions," Foss said.

Management Agency over flood plain violations in the village. The village and FEMA have been fighting over violations for almost 10 years.

"It's got to be addressed immediately; beyond that, I need a day or two in the office to see where we're at (on other issues)," he said.

He also said that the positions abolished at Thursday's meeting would eventually be replaced.

"I am going to get more qualified people for the job," he said. "This is not a vendetta, it's a new beginning."

"I'm doing what I feel is best for the town and the people," he said. "That's the reason for it, it's nothing personal."

New procedure helps nearsightedness

Continued from Page 1A

area — currently certified to do the procedure.

The procedure is done on an outpatient basis, using a topical eye drop as anesthesia, and lasts a half-hour or less.

Verity, who has been training eye surgeons in Canada, now is extending the instruction to American doctors.

The St. Louis-area NovaMed practices also have offices in Granite City, St. Louis and Florissant, Mo. Verity has been working with the device since the beginning and worked directly with sponsor Keravision for some of the design changes.

"The outcomes have been extra good," Verity said. "I'm struck with how many patients are actually seeing better than 20/20."

That's the case with more than half the patients from the clinical trials, including Evans.

Verity said that's not the only benefit.

"It involves only the peripheral areas of the cornea," Verity said. "The sensitive, visual ends of the cornea are never touched. No tissue is removed, making this an additive rather than subtractive procedure."

Instead of removing tissue as corrective laser surgery does, the ring segments flatten the curvature of the cornea and hold it in place, Verity said. That was a key selling point for Evans, who was wary of laser procedures.

Because of her medical background, Evans approached the decision better informed than most people.

"It made such anatomical sense I didn't understand why somebody didn't come up with this decades ago," she said. Verity said that because it is less invasive, the recovery time is shorter.

Evans' left eye was corrected in April 1997 and the

right one done seven months later. Her vision is better than ever, she said.

"Surreal is the best word I can think of to describe the difference (before and after the procedure)," Evans said. "Verity said another plus is that, if need be, the rings can be removed."

"In fact, give people the possibility for permanent correction without having to make a permanent choice with their eyes," Verity said.

The ideal candidate suffers mild to moderate nearsightedness, Verity said.

Verity said the cost is similar to that of laser surgery at \$2,200 to \$2,500 per eye. While most insurers do not cover it, Verity said he anticipates the popularity of the procedure will change that.

The procedure could potentially benefit 22 million Americans, he said. About 400,000 to 500,000 will undergo the treatment in the next year.

New Pontoon mayor cleans house

Continued from Page 1A

not run.

Denham then made his appointments and then got approval to abolish the positions of assistant liquor commissioner, part-time clerk in the comptroller's office, and two building inspector positions.

The meeting went smoothly, with all of Denham's appointments being approved unanimously.

"I was very pleased with the cooperation from the board," Denham said.

Wallace has been with the department since 1987 and served as a police officer in Venice for 3½ years before that.

Wallace said his first priority is "to get the

morale back up to where it used to be" and that he anticipated no major changes in the near future.

"Nothing major yet," he said. "I have some plans in mind, but I haven't discussed it with the mayor yet."

Wallace said Crouch will go back to the rank of captain.

"I know there are some bad feelings, but I hope there won't be (any) problems," Wallace said.

Crouch had opposed Denham's candidacy and had filed a complaint with the Village's Electoral Board and later in court to have Denham thrown off the ballot.

Denham said after the meeting that his first priority is dealing the the Federal Emergency

Management Agency over flood plain violations in the village. The village and FEMA have been fighting over violations for almost 10 years.

"It's got to be addressed immediately; beyond that, I need a day or two in the office to see where we're at (on other issues)," he said.

He also said that the positions abolished at Thursday's meeting would eventually be replaced.

"I am going to get more qualified people for the job," he said. "This is not a vendetta, it's a new beginning."

"I'm doing what I feel is best for the town and the people," he said. "That's the reason for it, it's nothing personal."

Officials knew of Chemetco investigation

Continued from Page 1A

been taking samples," Polley said. "I know that the EPA has been working with Chemetco to clean it up."

Polley said some residents in the area have expressed concern about the situation. "I myself am sort of concerned because I'm wondering how far down the pollution goes," Polley said.

Polley added at least 50 homes are next to the lake. Polley said there has been long-standing concern by some in the area about the plant. "There have been concerns expressed in the past," Polley

said. "If you drive down Old Alton Road, you will notice there are a lot of dead trees, and there have been a lot of dead animals in the vicinity. I think they have known for some time that something has been going on in the lake."

Dennis McMurray, a spokesman for the Illinois EPA, said about 1,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil has already been dug up and placed in a containment area, and plans for the entire cleanup have been submitted to the IPCB.

McMurray said the IEPA has done some soil testing in the area, but results are not available yet. "I know we took

some samples from houses about 1½ miles away. I don't think those results have been analyzed yet," he said.

Because of the nature of the materials that were allegedly dumped in the lake, the agency is hoping the contamination will not be widespread.

Because the pollutants are heavy metals, McMurray said they will tend to sink into the sediment quickly.

According to IEPA information, high levels of lead, cadmium and zinc can be harmful.

Company officials did not return calls seeking comment.

Improper procedures may have led to furnace worker's fatal fall

By Mike Hill
Staff writer

Proper safety procedures may not have been taken by the worker who fell to his death early Monday morning at Granite City Steel, according to a Granite City police report.

Gerald Pacheco, 28, of Pontoon Beach, fell about 46 feet from a platform where he and another workman were tossing heavy coolers to an area below.

The fatality occurred about 3:10 a.m. Monday. Pacheco was rushed to St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City, where he was pronounced dead at 3:40 a.m. by an emergency room physician. An autopsy was performed later Monday.

The cause of death was listed as being from internal injuries.

Pacheco was tossing the coolers when his safety harness apparently became entangled with, or hooked

on, the cooler, causing the fall. The police report states that Pacheco may have had his safety harness improperly tied, or not tied, to a safety line.

Pacheco, who was hired by SDI Construction in Washington, Pa., was assigned to a crew of four to renovate a blast furnace. They were on the job less than a week when the fatality occurred.

The case is under investigation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Bob Maxwell, a spokesman for Granite City Steel, could not be reached for comment.

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Saturday, May 1st: 2:00pm - 4:00 pm
Human Shelter, Missouri Ave. (Rt. 3) Granite City
Saturday, May 8th: 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Nameoki Township Garage, Hwy 182, Granite City
Saturday, May 15th: 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Madison City Garage, 3rd Street, Madison

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INFORMATION

For information about this program, call Memorial's Mental Health Information Line at 233-6700 from April 25 to May 20. In consideration of your privacy, you will not be asked for your name.



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With great faith, this dear mother knew God heard her prayer. She put the baby in his playpen and started cleaning the windows.

Thirty minutes later the doorbell rang. There stood a sweet smiling lady she had never seen before. The lady said, "I'm newly attending your church and they told me you lived out my way. I thought we could have some fellowship." The young mother

A New You



Catherine Galasso

happily invited the lady in and they began to talk of the love of God.

After they visited for a while the lady asked for a glass of water. Then, baby started fussing and the lady said, "Take care of the baby, I'll get the water."

The young mother told the lady there was cold water in the refrigerator, forgetting that there was nothing else. She heard the cabinet doors opening and shutting and called out, "The glasses are at the right hand side of the sink."

A few minutes passed and the lady said she had to go and pick up her four daughters from school but said she would return with them because she wanted the young mother to meet her children.

An hour later, the doorbell rang again and upon opening the door there was the sweet lady with her four daughters, each holding a bag of groceries, five full bags of food. The sweet lady looked at her and said, "I hope you don't mind; I saw the cabinets were bare."

Through teary eyes filled with joy, the young mother hugged her and her girls and said, "Thank you, Lord." That family had nothing left to eat, but in three hours it had everything — all from someone they had never seen before. This is a true story.

God will supply all of your needs. His promises never fail. Believe in the pure Word of God. He's always on time. The Bible says, "He will never leave us or forsake us." So trust in that great love and live to please Him.

When you have gone as far as you can go, that's when God steps in and performs miracles. Do not worry, fret not, God meets every desperate need. There is no fear in love. If you live long enough in the light of God's perfect love you will not be

afraid.

Saturate yourself in His word. Shut all the unbelievers out. You just do not have time for their negativity. This is your life. It is valuable and can be glorious. Open yourself up to the truth, the way and the life, and drink it like a desert wanderer takes to water.

Like a flashlight in a dark room, shine God's light upon your heart. Take time to talk with Him often and with prayer and thanksgiving make your requests known to Him and then trust, trust. He is a miracle-working God.

Fear not and believe only. Be still in the safety of God, who has thousands of angels to do His bidding, to put ideas in your head and

thoughts of kind deeds to do for others.

God will give you the power to live in victory. His perfect love will cast out all fear. He is the only one who can do that. As He has all down through history for so many.

Just take His promise, keep it close to your heart and believe it. Hold onto God's unchanging hand. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Catherine Galasso is a free-lance columnist for the Suburban Journals. You may write to her at Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, Mo., 63131, or by e-mail at westnews@primary.net.

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where we failed to greet you and welcome you,
when you sought God and we did not show you the way,
where we were angry or self-centered,
where we allowed to feel that you were not cherished,
where we were a barrier to Christ instead of a bridge to Christ,
we ask for your forgiveness.

The Season of Lent is a time of
reflection,
self-examination,
repentance,
and a time of seeking
God's mercy and
God's grace.

"You do not want sacrifices,
or I would offer them;
you are not pleased with burnt offerings.
My sacrifice is a humble spirit, O God;
you will not reject a humble and repentant heart."
Psalm 51:16-17

We, as a church, humble ourselves before God and our community, relying on God's forgiveness and pray for yours.

Our pledge to your is this:

If you choose to visit our church, we will greet you in a respectful, loving way. We are all sinners finding our way to the cross of Jesus. We invite you to join us on the way.

Worship Services on Sundays:

8:30 Informal Worship
9:30 Youth Praise Service
10:45 Traditional Service

Nameoki United Methodist Church
1900 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040

Bridal Show helps plan perfect wedding

Information on planning the perfect wedding will be at your fingertips at the Creative Elegance Bridal Show sponsored by the Suburban Journals.

The show is from noon to 6 p.m. today at the St. Louis Airport Marriott, off Interstate 70 near Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. The event is free for the bride-to-be. The cost is \$3 per person for those who accompany her.

"The Journal's Creative Elegance Bridal Show is a unique opportunity for the bride, groom and family to gather a great deal of

information in an exciting new format," said Erika Francis, project coordinator for Gateway Sports Promotion Group.

Each bride-to-be who attends the show will receive a free bridal planner. The names of every bride and groom will be entered into a drawing for prizes that will be given away throughout the afternoon from each of the show's vendors. The big prize is a four-day, five-night Caribbean honeymoon from American Prestige.

Two photography studios — Trotter Photo and M.J. Daniel Photography — will offer a

free engagement photo with a paid admission.

The event also will feature: two wedding fashion shows with models from the Barbizon School; a seminar on selecting rings, conducted by Saelele Jewelers; a workshop on honeymoon success by Majestic Travel; a seminar with a bridal consultant; and more than 30 exhibits from wedding-related vendors, including caterers, photographers, travel agents, and fashion and decorating experts.

Former Cardinals player Greg Matthews will be the host of the groom room.

DEPRESSION

Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville needs volunteers ages 18 and over with depression to participate in research studies comparing investigational drugs with available antidepressant medication and placebo. If you or someone you know has depression and would like to be considered for a study please give us a call. Symptoms include:

- SADNESS, CRYING SPELLS
- LOSS OF INTEREST, IRRITABILITY
- HOPELESS AND HELPLESSNESS
- APPETITE OR WEIGHT CHANGE
- FATIGUE, SLEEP DISTURBANCE
- GUILT, WORRY, DEATH WISHES

Suitable volunteer will receive a physical exam, lab tests and regular visits with a psychiatrist free of charge. Call Mary 618-659-0292, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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THE GUESS WHO
SATURDAY, MAY 8
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MAY 22 - John Mellencamp
MAY 23 - Pointfest
JUNE 11 - Dave Matthews Band
JUNE 19 - Sammy Hagar

JULY 7 - Ozzy '99
JULY 10 - Paul Simon/Boh Dylan
JULY 20 - Jimmy Buffett
AUG. 5 - N SYNC
AUG. 19 - REM w/ Wilco

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Reserved and Lawn Seat tickets are available at all TICKETMASTER TICKET CENTERS, including all Famous-Barr locations, all Streetwise Records locations, select area Schnucks Video Clubs, Riverport Amphitheatre Box Office. To speak with a sales representative call: (314) 421-4400. To charge by phone call: (314) 241-1888.

Tickets subject to service charge. For group sales or season ticket information, call (314) 952-4000 x252. Special assistance needs call: 1-800-368-3823 (TDD). Assisted listening devices available.

PRODUCED BY CONTEMPORARY

Movie schedules

Film timetable for Sunday, April 25. For times on other days or to confirm these times, check local theaters.

CARMIKE PETITE
170 and Hwy. 157, Collinsville, Ill. 244-7028
Life (R) 1:45, 4:10, 7:15, 9:35
The Matrix (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
Never Been Kissed (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:25
Lost And Found (PG-13) 1:15, 3:45, 7:10, 9:30

EASTGATE CINE
Eastgate Plaza, E. Atton, Ill. 254-5289
The Matrix (R) 1:20, 4:10, 7:30
10 Things I Hate About You (PG-13) 2:20, 4:50, 7:20
Never Been Kissed (PG-13) 1:40, 4:30, 7:00
Lost And Found (PG-13) 1:00, 4:20, 6:50
Life (R) 2:00, 4:40, 7:10
Baby Geniuses (PG-13) 1:30, 4:50, 8:45

COTTONWOOD EDWARDS-VILLE CINEMA
Edwardsville, Ill. 656-6390
The Other Sister (PG-13) 2:15, 7:00
True Crime (R) 2:00, 6:45
Blast From The Past (PG-13) 2:30, 7:15

ESQUIRE CINE
6706 Clayton Road, 781-3390
Go (R) 1:35, 5:15, 7:40, 9:55
Life (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Lilo (R) 2:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
Foolish (R) 2:00, 5:35, 7:55, 9:40
The Matrix (R) 1:00, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10
Ed TV (R) 1:25
Life Is Beautiful (PG-13) 1:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15

LINCOLN THEATER
103 E. Main, Belleville, Ill. 233-0123
Saving Private Ryan (R) 1:30, 7:30
Wing Commander (PG-13) 1:45, 7:10, 9:15
A Bug's Life (G) 2:00, 7:00
A Civil Action (PG-13) 9:05

NAMEOKI CINEMA
30 Nameoki Village, 677-6523
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 2:00, 7:00
Doug's First Movie (G) 2:15, 6:45

O'FALLON 15 CINE
1320 Central Park Dr., O'Fallon, Ill. 822-9900
Pushing Tin (R) 1:35, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 2:00, 4:20, 7:05, 9:20
Cruel Intentions (R) 1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 8:05
Life (R) 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30
Goodbye Lover (R) 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
10 Things I Hate About You (PG-13) 2:20, 4:15, 7:05, 9:25
Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 1:00, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15
Ed TV (PG-13) 2:30, 5:10, 7:50
Never Been Kissed (PG-13) 1:20, 3:05, 5:25, 8:00
Never Been Kissed (PG-13) 1:55, 4:15, 7:20, 9:45
Payback (R) 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35
Twin Dragons (PG-13) 1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:15, 9:15
Life Is Beautiful (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50
Shakespeare In Love (R) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

4:30, 7:10, 9:50
The Other Sister (PG-13) 2:10, 4:50, 7:40

ST. CLAIR 10
50 Ludwig Drive, 398-8383
Baby Geniuses (PG) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:15
Analyze This (R) 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 9:40
Doug's First Movie (G) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:25
Lost And Found (PG-13) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:30
Go (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45
The Matrix (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
The Matrix (R) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45
Foolish (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:20
Foolish (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
The Out of Towners (PG-13) 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 9:35

SHOWCASE 12 EDWARDS-VILLE

5633 Center Grove Rd., 659-7469
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50
Lost And Found (PG-13) 1:20, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30
The Matrix (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00
Never Been Kissed (PG-13) 1:40, 4:15, 7:40, 10:05
Analyze This (R) 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 10:10
10 Things I Hate About You (PG-13) 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15
The Out of Towners (PG-13) 1:50, 4:40, 6:40, 9:00
Life (R) 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:45
Go (R) 2:10, 5:10, 7:45, 9:55
Doug's First Movie (G) 1:30, 3:50
Shakespeare In Love (R) 7:10, 9:55
Pushing Tin (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55
Baby Geniuses (PG-13) 1:15, 3:45, 6:45, 9:10

Ezra's music is better than average

Trio from New Orleans brings it catchy sound to Mississippi Nights

By Wade Alberty
Staff writer

Not many popular bands fall into the category of "bar band" nowadays, but Better Than Ezra is an exception. So Mississippi Nights was a perfect venue for their most recent show last Friday night. The band came through in support of its latest effort, "How Does Your Garden Grow," its third major label release.

The trio from New Orleans features Kevin Griffin on lead vocals and guitar, Arron McNabb on drums and Tom Drummond on bass. Better Than Ezra, known as BTE by fans, broke onto the music scene in 1995 with "Deluxe."

Featuring a sound that borders somewhere between pop, top 40, rock and alternative, BTE brings a catchy sound that is agreeable to the most hardened music critic.

The band's live show has a simple, boyish pleasure to it. It is three guys on stage doing what they love, and obviously having the time of their lives doing it.

With such whimsy as having the Statue of Liberty come out at the show's opening and light candles with her torch, BTE provides a show that keeps the

audience active and entertained.

BTE also is great at breaking into cover songs at any given moment, including in the middle of one their songs.

Another highlight of the live show is what Griffin calls "the interactive" part of the show. Griffin goes into the crowd with an electronic sound sampler, samples the voice of a couple of fans and then incorporates it into the music.

The band's music comes straight at you with guitar-driven music and a basic rock beat. The lyrics feature songs with catchy choruses and heartfelt ballads.

On "How Does Your Garden Grow," BTE stays fairly true to their normal form with songs like "At The Stars," "Allison Foley" and "Like it Like That."

The band does take a slight detour, going into a more keyboard, slightly techno oriented sound with the song "One More Murder" (also featured on the X-Files soundtrack) and the opening instrumental "Je Ne Na Men Souviens Pas."

Overall, BTE offers a solid, fun-filled, entertaining live performance, with music that is equal to the task.



Kevin Griffin performs with Better Than Ezra at Mississippi Nights. Wade Alberty photo

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Earth Day celebration planned

Staff report

The community is invited to celebrate Earth Day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at the Watershed Nature Center in Edwardsville. A variety of activities and demonstrations for all ages will be offered.

Laura Perkins, one of the event's organizers, noted that a highlight of past Earth Day celebrations was the "All Species Parade."

"We're looking forward to this year's parade," Perkins said. "You can dress up as your favorite species and join others in a hike around the grounds. Come dressed as your favorite critter, or rummage through the recycled goods barrel we'll have on hand to create your own costume on the spot."

The parade starts at 1 p.m. In addition to continuous demonstrations on recycling, composting, mushrooms and bluebirds, a number of scheduled events are planned.

Guided tours of the Nature Center focusing on wildflowers will take place at 11 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and noon. Arts and crafts, as well as face painting, will be offered for children.

Local businesses and organizations, including Beyond Timbuktu and the Madison County Farm Bureau Women's Club, will have Earth-friendly items for sale.

Italian American Club

Tuesday @ 7:00 pm
Nameoeki Bingo Center
 \$90.00 - \$100.00 & \$500.00 Games
 \$500.00 Early Bird
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METRO-EAST BUSINESS EXPO
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 #1 Gateway Drive
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Saturday, May 8th 10 am - 5 pm
Entertainment and Seminars
 KLOU Oldies 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Dan Buck 11:00 am - 11:30 am

Main Stage	Children's Area
11:45 - 12:15 Zack the Police Dog from Collinsville Police Dept.	11:00 - 12:00 Soother Family Jugglers
12:30 - 1:00 Cooking Fresh & Lite With Chef Brian Pehr	12:15 - 1:00 Dan Sprat with Songs and Stories
1:15 - 1:45 Hitting Your Drives With Golf Pro Mike Weber	1:00 - 1:30 Yo-Yo Demonstration, first 100 kids receive free yo-yo
2:00 - 2:30 C.A.S.T. Performance	1:30 - 2:00 Jugglers
2:45 - 3:15 Pictorial Seminars	2:00 - 3:00 Face Painting, A Ballroom Artist & Magician
3:30 - 4:00 Collinsville Junior High Band	3:00 - 4:00 Gracie-A-Girl table for Mothers Day, Hot Dogs provided by Schnucks.
4:00 - 5:00 Expo Giveaways & Playhouse Drawing	

Buy Your Raffle Tickets For 9'x8' Playhouse
 Built by Miller & Maack
 Anderson Hospital - Health Area: 10:00 - 5:00
 American Red Cross - Blood Drive: 12:00 - 5:00

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FOR MORE INFO 344-2884

Diane Lane finds acting addictive

Veteran actress stars in romance 'A Walk On The Moon'

By Steve Bryan
 Correspondent

There are few performers working today who have as impressive a list of acting credits as Diane Lane. At the tender age of 6, Lane became a professional actress and appeared in stage productions of "Medea," "Electra" and "As You Like It."

In 1979, Lane made her big screen debut opposite Sir Laurence Olivier in "A Little Romance," the story of a young American girl living in Paris who runs away with a French boy. Since then, Lane has worked

"When I saw the film, I thought we succeeded in doing what the screenplay gave us, which is not always in the dialogue."

Diane Lane

steadily and shared the screen with such actors as Richard Gere, Robert Duvall, George C. Scott, Donald Sutherland, Tommy Lee Jones and Matt Dillon, just to name a few. "I've had the pleasure of working with people I've really admired," Lane said. "I'm thrilled to be able to say all

the people I've been able to work with."

"I always had fantasies of quitting and doing something else. But it's quite addictive. The opportunities have been really great and interesting. Who would want to walk away from this?" she said.

Lane's latest project is "A Walk On The Moon," a bittersweet romance that takes place in 1969 as the Apollo 11 lunar mission heads toward its history-making moon landing.

Lane plays Pearl, a young wife and mother who starts to feel that life is passing her by. She has to deal with a rebellious daughter, a meddling mother-in-law and a husband who has to spend more time at work than he likes.

"The screenplay first attracted me to this project. The quality of writing was phenomenal," Lane said. "It's so rare that you find a script that deals with such a universal issue so deftly. Every character is really fleshed out."

Horoscope

SUNDAY, APRIL 25
 The moon enters Taurus early in the morning, calming the psyche enough for us to be aware of the sensual world around us. It's no longer necessary to prove yourself or be the giant talent that everyone notices. More important now is the quiet strength that comes from observation. Everything you need is close at hand.

TOY'S BIRTHDAY (April 25). You're lucky when you leave your reservations behind and seek new and exciting prospects. Your best signs for new love are Sagittarius and Cancer. An old Aries flame re-enters the picture but then leaves again. Married couples find that problems regarding finances end in June and a move increases happiness and marital pleasure. A second honeymoon in July is worth it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Save every penny possible in view of impending expenses. You may need to put in extra

hours on the job. Your selflessness is critical now.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). You are more than ready to make a major change. A child's love is your greatest inspiration. If you ask nicely, a partner helps bear a financial burden. Singles connect at the obvious hangouts this evening.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Loved ones and colleagues are appreciative of the effort you make to touch base with family members before heading out into the wild blue yonder. Challenging new employment stimulates you to do your best work.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your sex appeal is strong. Worrying from a distance does no good; offer solutions, or walk away. Your creative endeavors are well received. Luck involves the stock market. A fun evening is spent with close friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Let an outspoken person know when input is not welcome. You are the best judge of your own motives. Financial and legal problems subside when you take charge of the situation. A new admirer hotly pursues you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your first attempt is premature; prepare more before trying again. An artistic endeavor reaches a higher plane when you take a break and come back to it after the weekend. Encountering a former love is unavoidable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You succeed where others fail. Private getaways and business out of town bring special luck. Success rests upon the influence of Gemini. Pleasure spending is likely now. You'll have renewed hope regarding emotional ties.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You take a decisive stand against vacillating forces and win. Watch for signals that you're more desirable than ever to the opposite sex. Large expenditures can be skirted in business, but don't skip on love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Through calm meditation, you're able to conquer tensions. A sweetheart is practicing attention-getting tactics. Make a commitment to long-term projects instead of worrying about details that don't matter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Learn from a financial mistake, and hit the jackpot next time. Dabbling in a new medium expands your boundaries in the old one. Your educational and spiritual progress is evident to those close to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A mission comes to its favorable completion. Mysterious signals from a romantic interest are easily deciphered when you consult a mutual friend. You are right on target with a financial call. Seek Libran companionship.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). An adjustment of your personal habits will improve overall life quality. You'll enjoy public adoration. Follow-through will get you the romance or job you want.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28	
Taco's.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat Shrimp	\$5.50
THURSDAY, APRIL 29	
Rueben's.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat" Chicken	\$5.50
FRIDAY, APRIL 30	
2 pc. Fish w/ Mac & Cheese.....\$4.50/"All You Can Eat" Fish	\$5.50
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Suburban Journals Deadline May 1, 1999

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 \$3.00 Hamburger 50¢

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Wednesday - Peel & Eat Shrimp 20¢
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Thursday - Taco's 75¢
 Polish Sausage, Kraut & pot \$2.50

Friday - Cod & Catfish
 BBQ Pork Sandwich, chips \$2.00

Saturday - BBQ Pork Steak w/Slaw \$3.50
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 Keanu Reeves Laurence Fishburne
 SAT and SUN MATS NIGHTLY
 1:45 4:10 7:30 9:45

NEVER BEEN KISSED
 Drew Barrymore
 SAT and SUN MATS NIGHTLY
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Loose Groove

Park District sponsoring week-long trip to Mt. Rushmore area

The Granite City Park District will sponsor a seven-day trip to the area of the famous Mt. Rushmore National Monument in Keystone, S.D., the week of June 1-7.

The trip will go on sale at 8 a.m. Tuesday at the Wilson Park Ice Rink. The cost is \$693 for a single reservation and \$547 per person for two to a room. For this trip, only 42 persons may be accommodated, due to limited seating on a special tour bus through the Black Hills and surrounding area.

A very full itinerary has been planned, yet with free

time allowed to browse the streets and shops of Keystone, S.D., where the group will have lodging for three nights. Other nights will be spent in Sioux Falls, S.D., and St. Joseph, Mo.

In addition to the very impressive lighting ceremony at 9 p.m. at Mt. Rushmore, the highlight should be the all-day tour of the entire Mt. Rushmore area that goes from early morning and a cowboy pancake breakfast to a Ft. Hays chuckwagon supper and cowboy music show in the evening.

The day will include a

guided, narrated tour of Mt. Rushmore, the Crazy Horse Memorial and Museum, Custer State Park, the Rushmore Borglum Story, Pictorial Bridges, Needles Highway, Iron Mountain Road, scenic tunnels, Sylvan Lake, State Game Lodge and the set of the Oscar-winning Kevin Costner film *Dances with Wolves*, with many camera stops.

A guided tour has also been arranged at a Black Hills gold

factory in the area. Other points of interest along the way will be the famous Wall Drug Store, the world's only Corn Palace and a tour of Badlands National Park. Guided tours will also be made in Sioux Falls, S.D., and historic St. Joseph, Mo.

A total of 12 meals will be included in the cost of the trip, with a variety of menus that include everything from a

small family-owned cafeteria in St. Joseph to a steak dinner at the Alpine Inn in the tiny town of Hill City, S.D.

For more information on the trip, please call Sue Champion at her residence, 451-1212, or the Wilson Park Office at 877-3659. Granite City Park District residents have priority in making reservations for all trips, with non-residents placed on a waiting list and notified one week later of availability.

One person can sign up for

one room only. Proof of residence must be presented for each person, unless husband and wife.

The next multiple-day trip sponsored by the Park District will be July 13-16 to the LaCrosse, Wis.-Rochester, Minn. area, where many sights will be visited in the year-round tourist area of LaCrosse, as well as a tour of the world-famous Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

The trip will go on sale May 27.

Annual area Harley cancer fund-raising ride set May 16

The need for speed has played a central role in the life of Dr. Guillermo Rodriguez, a Belleville oncologist.

During an eight-year tour with the Missouri Air National Guard he developed a fondness for flying high-performance aircraft, namely F-4s, F-15s and F-16s.

But when the former flight surgeon resigned as a "top knife" due to the demands of a growing Oncology Care Center practice, Rodriguez was left with a void.

It didn't take long for Rodriguez, who deals daily with the thrill of victory and agony of defeat as an oncologist, to find an alternative G-force source.

He bought his first Harley-Davidson motorcycle in 1994, and ever since, he made motorcycle riding his passion.

The down-to-earth transition has led to many discoveries for Rodriguez, mainly, that the true grit of Harley riders is their generous spirit.

"It's amazing what this group does for the community," Rodriguez said. "The (Harley Owners) group in Belleville supports at least a half-dozen charitable organizations, not to mention individuals who need special help."

Three years ago, with the support of the Belleville Harley Owners Group (HOG), Rodriguez launched a motorcycle benefit ride to

raise money for the American Cancer Society. Next month, his Harley with a license plate that reads "Joy F-15" will lead an armada of bikers on a 90-mile route through the Southern Illinois countryside in the fourth Cancer Benefit Ride-Cindy Haeg Memorial.

The event will be held May 16. A \$10-per-person registration fee can be paid from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Prieze Harley Davidson, 517 S. Illinois St., Belleville, where the ride begins. All types of bikes are welcome.

"The beauty of this event is the diverse group of riders it attracts," Rodriguez said. "They come from all walks of life to fight the same enemy. We're looking forward to a great turnout this year."

Rodriguez named the event in memory of a former patient, Cindy Haeg, who died from breast cancer in 1997. In 1996, the event's first year, Haeg and her husband, Bruce, set out with 40 others in a maiden voyage under miserable weather conditions.

"That first year, it poured on us," Rodriguez recalled. "But those of us who were there toughed it out. It was quite an experience."

In the first year, \$7,000 was raised for the American Cancer Society. In subsequent rides, consistently better weather has improved ridership, as well as money raised.

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Where Beautiful Things Begin

What sets one landscape apart from the others? A professionally done job is one, but it's not in many people's budgets. Work, work and more work? That should do it, but the average working person's schedule doesn't permit too many eight-hour days in the yard. Here's something you ought to try. It's inexpensive, easy to install and can make a world of difference in the appearance of your landscape. Heavy-duty plastic edging.

While the edging is basking in the sun, take your trowel and dig a small trench along the hose/rope line. The trench doesn't need to be too deep, about the thickness of the edging. The claw end of the hammer works if you don't have a trowel. Don't worry about getting the entire trench the same depth; that can be a little tough. Just try to keep it as uniform as possible. Pound a stake into the ground every few feet to help keep the edging in place.

Once that's all set, take the edging and place it in the trench, trying to keep it the same height as you go. Slicing the edging back and forth works quite well. The edging should bend easily. If it won't, you were probably a little too anxious and didn't let it sunbathe long enough.

There are many edging materials you can use, but we can't think of any that are easier to install or are as inexpensive as ours. Concrete, railroad ties and patio blocks all make great edging, but they don't fit into the same easy-to-install, weight or price category.

How easy? The only tools you'll need are a small hammer, a good cutter, small trowel and a length of rope. Garden hose can be substituted for the rope if you wish.

Try to pick a sunny day. Trust us, it does matter, as you'll find out. Determine where the edging is to be placed. Don't worry if it isn't a perfectly straight line, Frank's edging can be curved to nearly any contour. In fact, it looks even better with curves. String the rope or hose along the line where the edging is to be. If it doesn't look quite right, move it around until it does.

Remove the edging from its package. It will appear at first that the edging wants to stay curled up and won't budge. Trying to install it this way is anything but easy. Here's the trick: unroll it, weight down both ends and let it lay flat in the sun for about an hour. It will then be easy to shape to almost any contour.

If you need an additional length, simply use the connector to attach the two pieces. Cut the pieces to the desired length.

Step back and examine the job. High and low spots will have to be adjusted. When everything looks fine, fill in the trench.

Looks good, doesn't it? Why stop there? Edging also looks great encircling swimming pools, gazebos or anything else. And when you're finished, go ahead and brag a bit about the "professional" landscape that you created yourself.

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School Menus

Week of April 26-30

Granite City Public Schools

MONDAY, April 26 —
Breakfast: Sausage patty, biscuit and gravy, sliced apple, milk; Lunch: Pizza, tossed salad with light dressing, sliced peaches, milk.
TUESDAY, April 27 —
Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, orange juice, milk; Lunch: Toasted ravioli with meat sauce, green beans, slice of bread, mixed fruit, milk.
WEDNESDAY, April 28 —
Breakfast: Pop Tarts, cherries, milk; Lunch: Beef and bean taco with lettuce and cheese, Spanish rice, mixed vegetables, slice of bread, apple wedges, milk.
THURSDAY, April 29 —
Breakfast: Cereal, toast and jelly, raisins, milk; Lunch: Von Mazetta, whole kernel corn, garlic cheese bread, oatmeal raisin cookie, pear halves, milk.
FRIDAY, April 30 —
Breakfast: Waffles with syrup, blueberries, milk; Lunch: Fish on bun, macaroni and cheese, pineapple chunks, milk.

Madison

Public Schools

MONDAY, April 26 —
Breakfast: Cereal and toast, milk; Lunch: Beef burrito, lettuce and tomato, corn, cherry crisp, cheeseburger on bun, milk.
TUESDAY, April 27 —
Breakfast: Turnovers, milk; Lunch: Chicken patties on bun, lettuce and tomato, oven wedges, apricots, taco salad, milk.
WEDNESDAY, April 28 —
Breakfast: Cereal and toast, milk; Lunch: Pork roast, whipped potatoes, green beans, pudding, bread, chicken nuggets, milk.
THURSDAY, April 29 —
Breakfast: Eggs and toast, milk; Lunch: Hot ham on hoagie, Fritos corn chips, carrot sticks, celery sticks, ranch dressing, peaches, sausage pizza, milk.
FRIDAY, April 30 —
Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, milk; Lunch: Salisbury steak, whipped potatoes, brown gravy, trail mix, bread, nacho cheese and tortilla chips, milk.

St. Elizabeth School

MONDAY, April 26 —
Lunch: Hamburger on bun, Tater Tots, green beans,

mixed fruit, milk.

TUESDAY, April 27 —
Lunch: Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes, corn, bread slice, peaches, milk.
WEDNESDAY, April 28 —
Lunch: Hard-shell taco, mixed vegetables, garlic bread, spiced apples, milk.
THURSDAY, April 29 —
Lunch: Chef salad with chicken, garlic bread, fruit, cookie, milk.
FRIDAY, April 30 —
Lunch: Fish sticks, potato wedges, peas, applesauce, milk.

Holy Family School

MONDAY, April 26 —
Lunch: Hot dog or chili dog on bun, grated cheese, oven potatoes, pears, milk.
TUESDAY, April 27 —
Lunch: Barbecued ham on bun, noodle, carrots, pineapples, milk.
WEDNESDAY, April 28 —
Lunch: Spaghetti, salad, cheese chunks, bread, applesauce, milk.
THURSDAY, April 29 —
Lunch: Tacos with cheese, meat, lettuce and tomato, refried beans, bread, cherry cobbler, milk.
FRIDAY, April 30 —
Lunch: Fish sandwich, macaroni and cheese, green beans, mixed fruit, milk.



Best in class

Belleville Area College's Police Academy, one of only six in the state of Illinois, recently held graduation ceremonies for Session 72. Granite City officer Justin Rayl, right, was awarded the first-place trophy for firearms; he accepts the award from lead firearms instructor Ron Shownes. Rayl also won second-place in defensive driving.

Milestones

Marlee Gunderson celebrates a birthday today, April 25.
Daniel Robinson celebrates a birthday today, April 25.
Ronald McGlawn celebrates a birthday today, April 25.
Norma Darnell celebrates a birthday April 26.
Kathy Schmidt celebrates a birthday April 26.
Donna May celebrates a birthday April 26.
Mary Sanders celebrates a birthday April 26.
Michael Ostresh celebrates a birthday April 26.
Elaine Thiek celebrates a birthday April 26.
Janet Jackopin celebrates a birthday April 26.
Ed Hoover celebrates a birthday April 27.
Lionie Turner celebrates a birthday April 27.
Tim Long celebrates a birthday April 27.

A.C. Haynes celebrates a birthday April 27.
Zachary "Charles" Warren celebrates a birthday April 27.
Brent Davis celebrates a birthday April 27.
Buddy Prazma celebrates a birthday April 28.
Ann Coleman celebrates a birthday April 28.
David Kube celebrates a birthday April 28.
Jim Schieb celebrates a birthday April 28.
Steve Laub celebrates a birthday April 29.
Angela Kaye Mc Masters celebrates a birthday April 29.
Steven Wright celebrates a birthday April 29.
Alan "Hot Rod" Crowley celebrates a birthday April 29.
Jason Padgett celebrates a birthday April 29.
Matt and Patty Schemwell celebrate their wedding anni-

versary April 29.
David Finke celebrates a birthday April 30.
Kenneth Kube celebrates a birthday April 30.
Melanie Lynn celebrates a birthday April 30.
Steve Christopher celebrates a birthday May 1.
Jamie Nichole Mertz celebrates a birthday May 1.
Lee "Boo" Sloan celebrates a birthday May 1.
Tracy Caffrey celebrates a birthday May 1.
To submit an item to Milestones or delete an entry, send a postcard to "Milestones," Granite City Journal, 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, IL 62040.
Please notify the paper if a person listed in Milestones has passed away or no longer wishes to be listed.

Rules of the Road course taking place

Secretary of State Jesse White, in cooperation with the Granite City Council of Senior Citizens, is offering a Rules of the Road review course for all citizens in the Granite City area.

The course is free to everyone, any age, who wishes to attend.

The Rules of the Road course will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday at the

Granite City Township Building, 2060 Delmar Ave.

For more information, please contact 877-4373.

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\$5.00 senior citizens

(opening night & Sunday Matinees)

\$5.00 students (opening night)

Discounts for groups of 12 or more

Ticket Reservations: 537-4962 (recorder)

Audition information for the next production

"The Little Prince" - Summer Children's Production

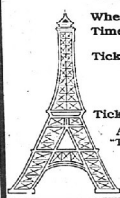
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Looking Glass Playhouse

Elaine Laws-Director

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Retired Office Personnel holds meeting

Retired Office Personnel of Granite City School District 9 held their April meeting at Ralph and Charlie's. Those attending were Dee Yates, Helen Favier, Nancy Rosales, Lucille, Caban, Arlene Haldeman, Marcella Pilcher, Dorothy Lerner, Sonya Chanesian, Marge Burdge, Millie Chandler, Harriet Mercer, and Barbara Schreiber. The mystery prize was won by Mille Chandler. Nancy Rosales, May hostess, has made reservations at Pizz World on Johnson Road for the next meeting.

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On April 28, 1999 at 1:00 pm, there will be a sale to enforce the warehouseman's lien according to the SELF STORAGE ACT passed in 1985.
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MEMBER FDIC

County officials setting up violence prevention hotline

By Sanford J. Schmidt
Staff writer

Madison County officials are setting up a toll-free hotline for children concerned about the possibility of violence in schools.

"MADISON COUNTY "We are going to develop a toll-free number that will be monitored 24 hours a day by Probation and Court Services," State's Attorney Bill Haine said Wednesday.

"The gist of the program is that we will make the line available to all students, an anonymous line they may access if they feel one of their peers is going off the edge."

The hot line was announced during a news conference in the aftermath of Tuesday's mass killing at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., where 12 died in a shooting rampage.

It may take two or three days to have the line installed.

The news conference was called by Madison County Board Chairman Rudy Papa, a former teacher, who said the Colorado killings deeply disturbed him.

"As an educator of 33 years, the tragedy got to may heart."

"We are going to develop a toll-free number that will be monitored 24 hours a day by Probation and Court Services. The gist of the program is that we will make the line available to all students, an anonymous line they may access if they feel one of their peers is going off the edge."

Bill Haine
Madison County State's Attorney

He said he consulted with Madison County School Superintendent Harry Briggs and Haine to discuss possible solutions.

Haine suggested the hotline be based at the Madison County Juvenile Detention Center because it is staffed 24 hours a day. The department has trained counselors on staff who could help institute action.

Officials said students have knowledge about unusual behavior on the part of fellow students long before the adults know.

"A sixth-grader may know of a situation, but he doesn't want to tell anybody," said David Whipple, the county's 911 coordinator and a former police officer.

"Generally, there are a number of kids that are aware of a situation," said Darrell McGibany, director of

probation and court services. Haine stressed the hotline would allow the students to remain anonymous, which may overcome their fear of informing adults about a dangerous situation.

The larger high schools in the county are staffed with liaison officers from the Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission School Violence Committee, Briggs said.

"Once the hotline system is in place, we can get the information to the school principal and liaison officer."

A similar line exists at the state level, and another is operated by Edwardsville. Haine said a direct line to county authorities would allow them to remove from school a student who may pose a threat. Officials also may obtain a court order to have

the suspected violent student investigated. McGibany said he also is working on a plan and seeking grant money to make more probation counselors available in the schools.

"We have done a lot of preventive things already," Briggs said. He said he does not want to imply that county schools are any more likely to harbor violent behavior than any other schools.

"This could happen anywhere, but we want to keep it from happening here."

Edwardsville School Superintendent Ed Hightower agreed.

He visited all the classrooms at the Edwardsville high school and middle school Wednesday to discuss problems of violent behavior. Hightower said he believes the best answer to such

problems is to encourage students to take responsibility for reaching out to adults when problems may be brewing.

"The students were very attentive and asked a lot of thoughtful questions," Edwardsville High School Principal Ed Harris said.

School officials said the high school was built with a \$70,000 video security system with cameras at a number of key points.

The high school also has a detailed violence prevention plan, including screening of visitors, parental involvement, crime reporting and victim support.

The school district also has obtained a security analysis from a consulting firm and is in the process of installing security devices at other schools in the district.

Haine said it is important to note that the Columbine school did not have a uniformed police officer on duty, as do some schools in Madison County.

"A school is a very soft target. Nobody goes into a police station and starts shooting people," Haine said.

"A uniformed officer represents the force of law, and he may also be armed with a .357 Magnum."

"Once the hotline system is in place, we can get the information to the school principal and liaison officer... We have done a lot of preventative things already. This could happen anywhere, but we want to keep it from happening here."

Harry Briggs
Madison County School Superintendent

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Automotive

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New models unveiled at New York Auto Show

By Tom Strongman

Several new models were unveiled earlier this month at the New York Auto Show. Nissan announced it would go ahead with the reincarnation of its fabled Z-car. Mitsubishi rolled out a new Eclipse. Sedans from Oldsmobile, Ford, Saturn and Infiniti captured their share of the spotlight.

Here is a synopsis of a few of the models shown for the first time:



Oldsmobile 2001 Aurora

2001 Oldsmobile Aurora

In 1994, the sporty Aurora sedan gave new life to a sagging Oldsmobile division. Powered by a 4.0-liter, twin-cam V-6 engine, this snazzy four-door set a youthful, aggressive tone for the division. Generation II cruised onto the stage amid throbbing music and flashing lights. Due out next spring as a 2001 model, its styling is understated

and clean, elegantly European yet recognizably an Oldsmobile.

It will be offered with both the current 250-horsepower V-8 and the 3.5-liter, dual-overhead-cam (DOHC) V-6 that is used in the Intrigue.

Overall length is decreased by 6 inches, while there is more room in both front and back seats. The trunk is now larger, too.

The instrument panel has controls with large, simple buttons and soft-touch knobs. Gauges are rimmed with chrome, and wood trim is abundant.

Saturn LS

About the size of a Honda Accord or Toyota Camry, Saturn's LS sedan and LW wagon are positioned to both attract new buyers and keep loyal Saturn customers in the family when they want to move up to a bigger car.

The new models maintain a strong family resemblance to the smaller Saturns, including the use of dent-resistant polymer panels on the sides of the vehicles.

Power comes from either a 2.2-liter, four-cylinder or a 3.0-liter V-6. Both engines have dual overhead cams, four valves per cylinder and either a five-speed manual or automatic transmission. The four-cylinder has 137 horsepower, while the V-6 has 182.

The LS and LW go on sale this summer as 2000 models.

2000 Ford Taurus

Ford has restyled the 2000 Taurus for a better on-road presence, more head room and a bigger

trunk while adding a whole host of safety innovations.

Up front, the grill is larger and bigger headlights put out 45 percent more light.

Around back, taillights, too, are bigger.

The hood has been raised for better aerodynamics and less wind noise. Correspondingly, the trunk was raised to add more trunk space as well and visual impact.

The 3.0-liter Vulcan V-8 now puts out 153 horsepower, while the 3.0-liter Duratec has been bumped up to 200.

Numerous safety improvements have been integrated into the car. Head and chest side air bags are available. A microprocessor controls the force with which dual-stage air bags inflate based on how close the seat is to the wheel; whether the seat belts are being used; and how severe the accident is. Safety belt retractors adjust belt tension to reduce injuries.

Tether anchors are provided for child safety seats, and a glow-in-the-dark emergency release handle is placed inside the trunk.

Power-operated pedals, a passenger-car first, will be a \$95 option.

Infiniti I30

Based on the 2000 Nissan Maxima, Infiniti's new I30 goes on sale in September. There is more room inside, because the wheelbase is 2 inches longer and overall length is up by 4.1 inches.

Power comes from a 3.0-liter, DOHC V-6 that



2000 Saturn LW2

cranks out an impressive 227 horsepower. Anti-lock brakes are standard and traction control optional.

Seats have been reworked to absorb vibration and provide better support. The back seat is a 60/40 split-folding design.

The I30 will be available in standard and Touring models.

Mitsubishi Eclipse

This striking, aggressively styled coupe showcases what Mitsubishi calls "geo-mechanical" styling with "taut" surfaces that appear as if they were machined from metal. It rides on a 2-inch longer wheelbase that provides for more interior space, especially for the rear seat.

A 2.4-liter, four-cylinder engine produces 155 horsepower, and a 3.0-liter V-6 is expected to put out 205. Both engines come with a five-speed manual or an automatic transmission that can be shifted like a manual.

The new coupe will be built at Mitsubishi's plant in Normal, Ill.

Old wiper blades smear windshields

By Rick Stoff

Spring showers bring pretty little flowers. They also bring slimy windshields smeared by old, worn-out windshield wipers.

Many motorists may be driving nearly blind in wet weather. The average U.S. motorist replaces windshield wipers every 3.8 years, compared to every 2.9 years in 1993, says the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association.

Even though the blade is not shredded or falling off the arm, visibility may not

be at its peak when the blades get too old," said Frank Hampshire, research director for the association.

Another sign that many of us are getting old: Remember how exciting the new Ford Mustang was when it was introduced? Doesn't it seem like it was only yesterday? Well, it wasn't. The Mustang turned 35 years old this month. The anniversary was celebrated with a national gathering of the 70,000-member Mustang Club of America at the Charlotte Motor Speedway in North Carolina.

Motorists can't sue an auto manufacturer because it didn't install safety equipment that was not required at the time a car was built, a federal appeals court has ruled. The suit was filed by a driver who was injured in a 1992 crash of

a 1987 Honda Accord into a tree. The suit alleged the driver's head injuries would not have occurred if the car had been equipped with an air bag. The court, however, ruled that the car met federal safety regulations in place at the time.

You can't catch fish unless you go where they swim. Car companies are following the same theory in trying to hook customers by going to their favorite hangouts.

Car manufacturers are spending increasing amounts of money on sponsorships of events such as sports and cultural activities as means of building relationships with potential buyers, according to the publication IEG Sponsorship Report.

The top sponsorship spender last year was General Motors, which put about \$340

million into various activities. Other big sponsorship spenders were Chrysler, \$60 million; Ford, about \$38 million; Nissan, \$13 million; and Toyota, about \$10 million.

The federal government has proposed new standards for child-safety seats and anchoring hardware in cars and trucks. The changes would begin taking effect in vehicles produced after Sept. 1 this year and phase in through Sept. 1, 2002. When all vehicles would be required to have "tether anchors" and rigid safety seat mounting bars.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says the changes would increase the cost of a vehicle by \$6.62 and make safety seats cost an average of \$17.19 more.



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Employment

Restaurant manager offers career food for thought

Focus on people to gain success, he advises

By Barbara Ponder
Correspondent

Cooking up a hot career without a college degree can be challenging, but restaurants still dish up those opportunities.

Walt Chaboude, general manager of Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, 2309 N. Highway 67, said a person with the right ingredients, including drive, can climb the ladder quickly.

"If they made good decisions and had good results, they could be a general manager in five years," Chaboude said. "I really think restaurants are always looking for good managers."

The prospects for restaurant managers are expected to increase as hectic lifestyles fuel the public's appetite for good food without the hassles of home cooking.

The National Restaurant Association reports that the industry employs about 10.2 million, about 8 percent of the working population. It expects employees to increase to 12 million in 2006.

The association estimates that 46 percent of all U.S. adults patronized a restaurant on a typical day in 1997. About 50 billion meals are consumed annually in restaurants, including school and work cafeterias.

That a lot of people are dining out is no news to Chaboude. His Applebee's, which seats 225 people, serves about 850 daily.

Public awareness of the industry has increased so has the respect accorded its managers.

"I think now it's more of a professional position," he said. "I'm more of a leader/business person because I'm totally held accountable for the financial profitability of this restaurant."

Chaboude has worked in the industry for about 17 years, with 15 in management.

He joined Applebee's about five years ago. A restaurant generally has several levels of management. At Applebee's, an entry-level manager may be a

hourly employee, such as a server or a cook, who manages only a day or so weekly.

An entry-level salaried manager usually oversees one aspect of the restaurant, such as the bar or kitchen.

At this level, the manager may continue to work shifts as well. The assistant general manager and general manager are the last rungs of management in individual Applebee's.

An area director oversees a market consisting of several stores. A regional vice-president of operations is in charge of markets for more than one state.

Chaboude said relocation generally becomes necessary only when a manager moves beyond the individual restaurant.

Promotion of employees to management positions is common. "I've promoted several people over the last year," he said. "The thing I find most rewarding is seeing the people under me move up or become more responsible or be able to do a better job."

A manager may work long hours - Chaboude averages 60 weekly - but salaries and bonuses can add up to good money.

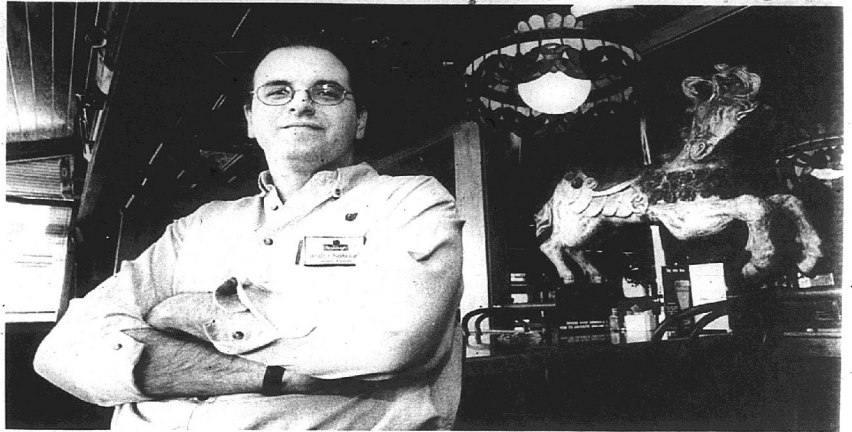
Lower-level managers may gross between \$33,000 and \$45,000 annually. A general manager may make between \$50,000 to \$55,000 annually.

Applebee's provides individual training, on an as needed basis, for an employee promoted to management because that person already knows many of the operations. Someone hired from outside the company receives several weeks of training.

The St. Louis County Department of Health requires at least one restaurant manager per site to receive certification as a food service management professional from an approved source, such as the National Restaurant Association.

Staying fully staffed is one of the challenges of the job. To retain employees, a manager needs to listen and address concerns.

"If you don't take care of your



Walt Chaboude is the general manager of Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, 2309 N. Highway 67.

staff, you're dead," Chaboude said. "You can't operate without a staff."

Playing host is an important aspect. Chaboude visits with the regulars and touches base with new patrons.

"A big part of building sales is getting to know your guests," he said. "Then they'll bring in more people and they'll come back more often. You're a friendly face that they see."

Knowing the guests means knowing what they like to eat then providing it. Applebee's menus have a cure of items that each restaurant must serve, but individual managers select the other dishes. Special requests also are honored, if possible.

Like folks here like vegetable platters," Chaboude said. "It's not on our menu but we make it. I'll make anything that I have the food to make."

Working with people extends beyond the restaurant as well. Chaboude has participated in the local Drug Awareness - Resistance Education (DARE) program.

The restaurant sponsors the Florissant Area Athletic Association soccer team.

Nationally, Applebee's participates in Coaches Versus Cancer and in 1998 donated about \$1 million to the campaign for cancer research.

Chaboude suggests those interested in the profession begin working in a restaurant as soon as possible, even if planning to pursue a degree in the field.

The University of Missouri at Columbia offers a four-year program in restaurant and hotel management. St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley has a two-year program in food service management.

In the end, Chaboude makes the recipe for effective management sound easy.

"If you take care of your employees, you get involved in the community and you develop people, you're going to be successful," he said.

Christian Gooden Photo

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1993 Ford (3 to choose)
1993 GM (3 to choose)
1993 Honda (3 to choose)
1993 Hyundai (3 to choose)
1993 Isuzu (3 to choose)
1993 Kia (3 to choose)
1993 Lexus (3 to choose)
1993 Mazda (3 to choose)
1993 Mercury (3 to choose)
1993 Mitsubishi (3 to choose)
1993 Nissan (3 to choose)
1993 Oldsmobile (3 to choose)
1993 Pontiac (3 to choose)
1993 Saturn (3 to choose)
1993 Toyota (3 to choose)
1993 Volkswagen (3 to choose)
1993 Volvo (3 to choose)
1993 Acura (3 to choose)
1993 Infiniti (3 to choose)
1993 Jaguar (3 to choose)
1993 Land Rover (3 to choose)
1993 Lotus (3 to choose)
1993 Maybach (3 to choose)
1993 McLaren (3 to choose)
1993 Mercedes-Benz (3 to choose)
1993 Mini (3 to choose)
1993 Morgan (3 to choose)
1993 Porsche (3 to choose)
1993 Range Rover (3 to choose)
1993 Rolls Royce (3 to choose)
1993 Saab (3 to choose)
1993 Smart (3 to choose)
1993 Subaru (3 to choose)
1993 Suzuki (3 to choose)
1993 Tesla (3 to choose)

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3823 PONTOON ROAD

LISTED! COUNTRY SETTING IN THE
This home features spacious rooms,
n closets, fireplace, patio, 1 car attached
e. House plus 1 1/2 acre can be
antial or commercial. Stop by to see
YE SMITH for the tour.

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F LISTED! VERY LARGE AND SPECIAL

3+ car detached garage. Big, eat in kitchen with custom tiled floor, sink, washer & dryer closet. Beautiful, oak, open stairway, whirlpool tub, large entry foyer. Apartmentette on 3rd floor with bedroom, living room, denette, roof windows, etc. Many updates. This beautiful home. A must see!! Home

T LISTED! NICE 3 BEDROOM HOME on the level lot. Oak cabinets in kitchen with in breakfast bar. Stone fireplace in Living rm. Patio doors to deck. Very convenient location. Seller very motivated! Belleville. 504

CK. Extra nice large eat.in kitchen. 3rd room in basement. Newer carpet over wood floors. Nicely landscaped, large in fenced rear yard. Priced for a quick \$74,500! Call today!!! CR3855

NOT LISTED! VERY WELL KEPT 3 BEDROOM

RE. Close to schools and shopping. New metal windows throughout in 1997. Fully finished basement and 1 car

ND OPERATED

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659-0212

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UCAS

A black and white portrait of a woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a dark top. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The photo is framed by a thin black border.

SUNDAY APRIL 25, 1-3 P.M.

home. Your Hostess: Rose Stern

Inner-City. ranch	SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOM w/family room & lots of storage. Walk-in closet in master bedroom. C2118 \$50's
large ranch.	BEAUTIFUL 1997 DOUBLE WIDE - great room w/fireplace, large kitchen w/built-ins, 2 full baths, located in well known

VERY NICE 2 BR mobile home. double insulated, stove, refrigerator & all drapes stay. Storage shed. C2149 \$6,000

GREAT HOUSE - updates galore, fabulous kitchen, 3 bedrooms, remodeled bath, vinyl siding, oversized garage w/workshop, fenced yard. C2170 \$40's


FULL BRICK BY THE PARK. Huge living

CAN'T BEAT THE PRICE - aluminum sided 2 bedroom home, formal dining room, full basement, patio & wallpaper accents. C2186 Low \$30's

RED HOMES
WANTED! Charming 2 BR brick home.
 2 bns, kitchen & bath updated, 1 car gar,
 room & 3rd in basement. C2179 \$80's.

MOBILE HOME w/12x24 add-on, appli-

MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS
stay, security system, sits on lake.

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DARLING brick ranch on a corner lot. Possibility of 4 bedrooms. Lots of storage. Beautiful view through dual sided fireplace. Granite \$56,900
 E0787 Karen Sother

VERY NICE all brick home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths in Arlington Heights. Both bathrooms remodeled in 1998, also the kitchen floor & dishwasher new in '98. Furnace & air approx 3 yrs old. 2x15 enclosed patio plus an alarm system. Granite City E0771 \$93,500 Judine Lux/Christine Miller

CHARMING 2 story home within 1 block of Wilson Park. Formal living room and dining room. Breakfast room. 3 bedrooms with dual sided fireplace. 2 car garage. 4 beautiful stain glass windows. Move in condition. Must see! Granite City E0774 \$109,900 Chris Hriste/Miller/Judine Lux

GREAT for growing family on 4.87 acres. Recently remodeled with huge rooms. Close to schools and highways. Granite E0750 E0809 Andrea Mull

ATTENTION investors: 3 homes side by side for total price of \$72,000. Potential \$120/mo income. Also priced separately in the \$20's. Madison E0700 MD-777 Gerry Eckert

FIX it up property! Spacious rooms, good potential. 2nd bedroom could be dining room. Knotty pine paneling in living room. Investors delight. Madison E0600 E0966

BREATHTAKING home! Screenshot enclosed patio. Lots of counter space. This is not a drive by. Granite-\$109,900 E0824 C Miller/J. Lux

CHARMING 1 1/2 story home. Upstairs has a large play area and lots of storage. Eat in kitchen. Walk out to large deck. Granite \$41,995 E0799 Elaine Tribes

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OUT OF THE PAST Troy historical home on 1.74 acres features a main level master bedroom w/ adjoining sitting room, living room combination w/ brick fireplace, country kitchen and first floor laundry. Walnut staircase leads to 3 large BR's and full bath. Additional features include full basement, 2 car garage, storage shed, garden spot and a mill pond on wooded lot. For your private showing call: MARY LOU SUMMY Page: 618-341-2812 Home: 618-667-6444

#C18589 - Four bedroom, 4 bath home approx. 2,000 sq. ft. plus additional finished area in full basement. Located on large shaded lot. \$190,000.
#C18504 - OPPORTUNITY KNOCKING! Industrial property on approx. 7 acres with buildings. Close to interstate.
#C18620 - NEW ON MARKET! Three bedroom home located edge of town on extra large lot. Overized double garage with furnace and workshop. \$109,900.
#C18497 - QUALITY AND SPACE is what you get with this 3 bedroom home, formal dining room, 15 x 29 eat in kitchen. Open staircase to the two upper levels. This is a MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE.
 NEED A HOME ON ACRES? GIVE US A CALL! We have a variety of price ranges and locations to choose from. WE ALSO HAVE VARIOUS LOTS AND ACRES TO BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME. CALL ONE OF OUR DEDICATED AGENTS TO GET A LIST.

#C18331 - Three bedroom home on Acres with City water! All set up for horses if you need or use the 48x36 barn for your hobbies. Also, hot 3-car garage. \$163,000.

1978 DOGWOOD
 COLLINSVILLE \$164,900
 2 STORY ON WOODED LOT! Features include boy windows, formal dining, FR w/built in breakfast bar, 1st floor laundry, walkout bsmt. large master suite with new luxury bath. DIRECTIONS: Pine Lake Rd. to Sanyon Tree to Dogwood. Call MARY PORTER 341-2827.

7512 STONEBRIDGE GOLF DR.
 MARVILLE \$159,900
 NEW! 1997 sq. ft. huge great room, cathedral ceilings, boy windows, 1st floor laundry, 2 car garage. DIRECTIONS: Keeler to Stonebridge. Call MARY PORTER 341-2827.

WHAT A DOLLHOUSE! Near as a pin inside & out. Upgrades in kitchen & bath, wallpaper highlights throughout. \$21,900. #C5986. VICKI CARROLL 288-2294.

JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT
 3 & a half with 3 BR's, 2 baths, bath, fireplace, new furnace & C/A, pantry, fenced yard, leaded glass, chandeliers. \$79,900. #C5862. MARY PORTER 341-2827.

DESIRED NEIGHBORHOOD - Spacious home with 3 BR, large living room w/ fireplace, eat-in kitchen, attic fan, enclosed porch w/woodburning stove, double lot, home warranty. GR326

LARGE 4 FAMILY BRICK with additional building in rear being used as barber shop, full basement, separate utilities - a great investment. GR020

FORMERLY EDWARDS STREET TRADING CENTER - 6,000 sq. ft. building, new furnace in 97, wood panel overhead door, zoned R-3. GR270

A PERFECT BEGINNING - 3 BR ranch with acre large eat in kitchen. Freshly painted inside and out. Lots of updates. GR 300

LARGE DUPLEX - Priced well below assessed value for quick sale - 12 rooms, full basement. GR141

BEAT THE HEAT THIS SUMMER by having fun with updated kitchen & bath, ceramic tile in kitchen, newer carpet, wiring & plumbing, full basement, det. garage. GR305

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DO IT NOW call to see this cute, nicely remodeled home. Newer furnace c/a, vinyl siding, low price too. GR028

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EDGE OF TOWN - Lovely 3 BR with open kitchen and family room concept, full basement screened-in back porch, new roof in 1997 attached garage with opener, large landscaped lot. GR328

SPACIOUS HOME IN MITCHELL - 3 BR, large eat-in kitchen, dining room that could be a bedroom or den, full basement, patio, attached garage, home warranty. GR221

OWNER SAYS SELL! Great commercial location for business or office. Open floor plan, recently renovated. High traffic count. Building sold "as is". GR396

NICE STARTER HOME - lots of kitchen cabinets, stove stays, full basement, new roof. GR340

WELL MAINTAINED RANCH on cul-de-sac - 3 BR, 2 baths, nicely decorated throughout, fireplace, 2 family rooms, full basement, 2 car det. garage, landscaped backyard. GL374

LIKE TO FIX UP? Here is your opportunity! 2 BR, eat in kitchen, enclosed porch. A lot for a little price! Just \$24,000. GR021

AN UNUSUAL FIND! 2 BR, family room, newer furnace & C/A. Detached garage. Priced to sell in teens. GR027

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 FULL BRICK HOME remodeled, 2 bdr, formal dining, plus a finished walkout with new carpet and both facilities. Det'd garage, more.
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LOT 27 STONEBRIDGE MANORS
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 ALSO AVAILABLE
 LOT 24 \$134,900
 LOT 45 \$217,500
 LOT 149 \$152,900
 LOT 162 \$169,900
 DIRECTIONS: 159 to Bellline to Keeler to Stonebridge Farms. Call JAN or TERRY 288-1924.

1 1/2 STORY WITH LOTS OF S.Q.
 2 STORY, 2 full baths, 1 full woodwork, 2 full baths, large covered front & back porches. \$63,900. #C5026. JAN - OR TERRY 288-1944.

RANCH with wood floors in LR & DR, covered front porch & back patio, det. garage, 1 1/2 level yard. \$59,900. #C5941. DIANE WAGNER 383-8827.

GREAT INCOME PROPERTY!
 2BR's, 1 1/2 baths on each side. \$49,900. #C5560. ROZANNE HUNTER 667-0249.

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Drafting students square off in competition

Winners will compete on state level on April 24

Area high school students squared off in a drafting competition recently when Belleville Area College hosted the Illinois Drafting Educators Association contest.

The competition at BAC was one of 21 regional contests held throughout the state. Fifty-five students representing seven high schools participated in the annual event. The six categories tested were architectural, machine or introductory board drafting and architectural, mechanical or introductory CAD.

Drafters who placed first or second are eligible to participate in the state competition, to be held April 24 at Illinois State University in Bloomington/Normal.

"The students who compete in BAC's regional have a history of doing very well when they advance to state competition," said John

member and program coordinator. "It speaks very well of the quality drafting programs that are offered at these high schools."

Architects and engineers from area firms and instructors from BAC's Drafting Department judge the work of the students. Winners received drafting supplies, certificates and plaques.

The award winners include:

Collinsville High School:

Kelli Scharf, first in architectural board; Brian

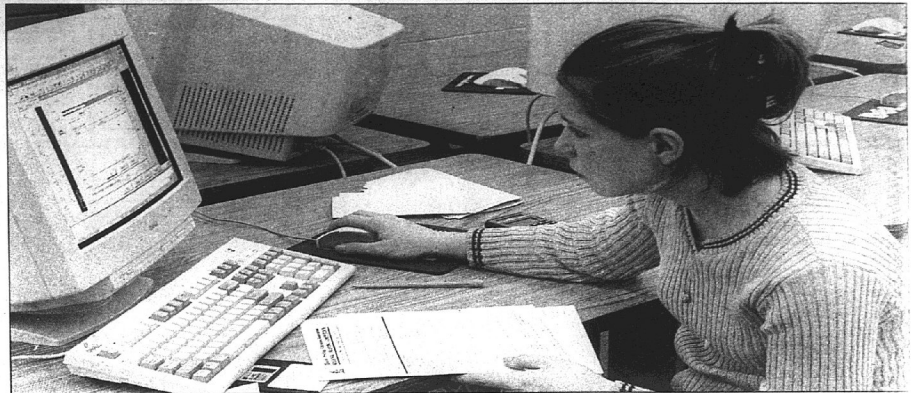
Doyle, second in architectural board; and Joseph Kerfoot, second in introductory board.

Freeburg High School:

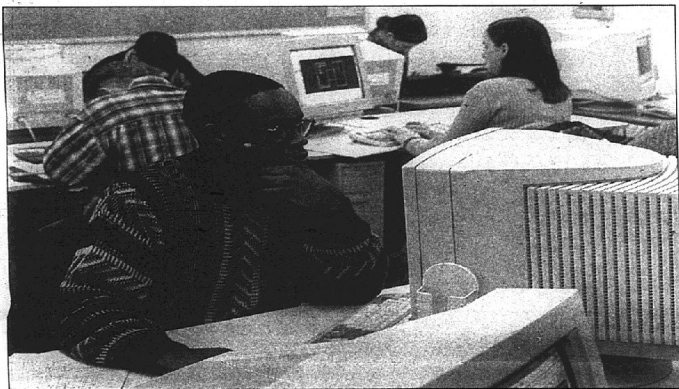
Samantha Goodwin, first in introductory board; and Brandon Castens, second in machine board.

Highland High School: David

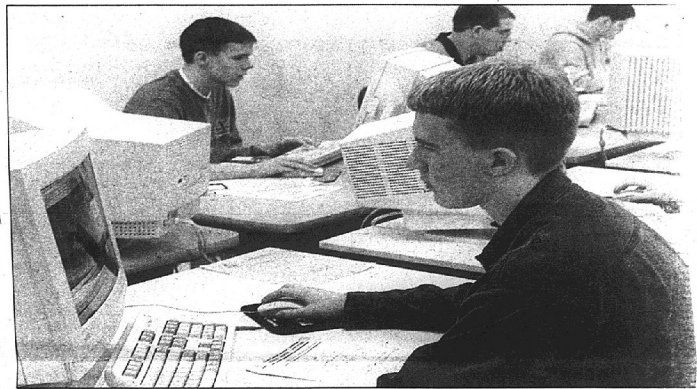
Gunning, first in introductory CAD; and Sandra Wilson, second in CAD architectural.



Rachel Lyn Minton, a junior at Triad High School, concentrates at the CAD machine during drafting competition at Belleville Area College. Ann Knef photos



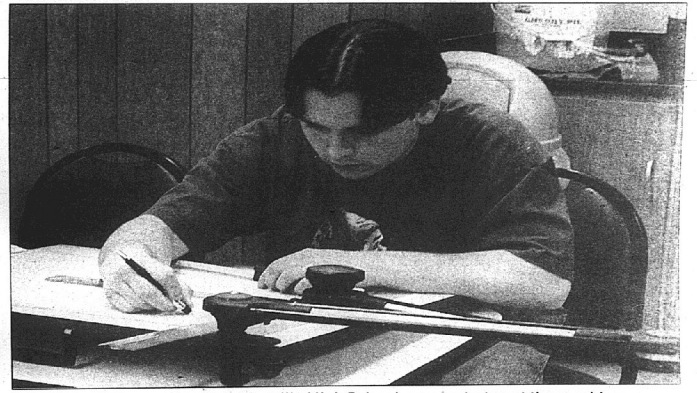
Christopher Connor, a senior at Belleville Township West High School, ponders a problem during the CAD architectural portion of drafting competition.



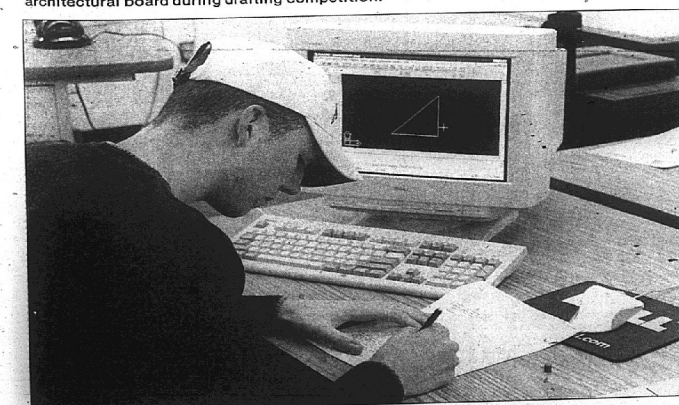
Jon Lawrence, a junior at Red Bud High School, concentrates during the CAD architectural segment of drafting competition.



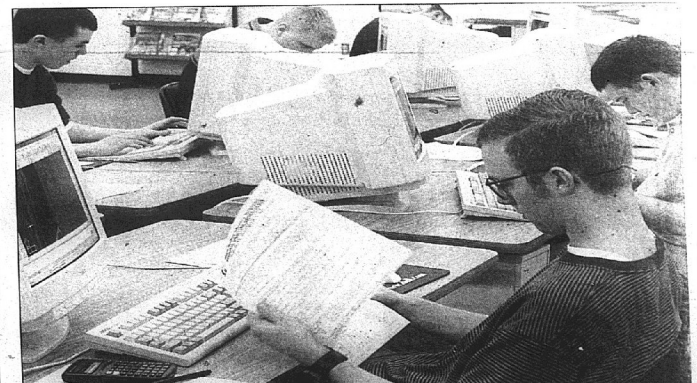
Adam Gordon, a senior at Mascoutah Community High School, works at the architectural board during drafting competition.



Jeffrey Seib, a senior at Collinsville High School, concentrates at the machine board during the competition.



Byron Rahn, a junior at Red Bud High School, works at the CAD machine during a portion of the competition.



Ben Molitor, a senior at Triad High School, looks over a packet of instruction during CAD machine competition.

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Top athlete
O'Fallon's Alford making
his case for No. 1
Page 2B

Sports

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For the kids
St. Louis Sports Commission
launches new program
Page 2B

South polls

National baseball
rankings favor
sunshine schools

Consider the recent weather, including that which caused rainouts of baseball games, and you will appreciate even more some polls that I found most revealing.

According to the NCAA News of April 12, Southern Illinois

University-Edwardsville was 13th in the country in NCAA Division II baseball while

two other members of the Great Lakes Valley Conference also were recognized.

Can you believe Quincy was No. 5 and Missouri-St. Louis No. 17? And, if you consider the Midwest,

Central Missouri State was No. 9 and Indianapolis No. 28.

What's the big deal? The answer is that for too long, the major league baseball draft has been dominated by players from the sunshine states while the reality of it all is that big leaguers can come from any state.

No need to repeat the names of southern Illinois products alone, but if you consider the NCAA Division II rankings led by Florida Southern and dominated by schools from Florida, Alabama and Texas, you can appreciate even more the ranking of SIUE and its conference contenders.

In Division I, Florida State was No. 1 with Wichita State (leader of the Missouri Valley Conference) the only non-sunshiner in a poll dominated by schools in Florida, Texas, California, Arizona, North Carolina and Louisiana.

Does it have to be that way? Apparently, the pollsters think so because the April 16 Easton Sports National High School poll was led by Babe of Lake Charles, La., and, again, dominated by the south.

The latter seems especially strange when you recall Edwardsville High gaining national recognition last year after going unbeaten and claiming the Illinois state Class AA title before Edwardsville won the national American Legion crown.

Worth watching? You bet the southern Illinois area is, and whenever I've spoken with a major league scout this spring, the mention of Brian Daubach of Belleville with the Boston Red Sox is just another reason to note the Division II poll and scoff at the others.

Warriors rebound for SWC win

Granite City regains
focus against West



Amber Hubert and her teammates beat Belleville West Thursday without stars Erika Todd and Felicia Mohsen.

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Wednesday's loss was the kind of beating that can cause long-term problems. But Granite City quickly rebounded and posted a 3-0 win against Southwestern Conference foe Belleville West at home Thursday night.

Senior Jamie Raub got the game-winning in the 24th minute. Holly Derosett — a mainstay at striker for the junior varsity — took a crafty run down the left side and popped a shot that West keeper Jennifer Klich blocked down.

Raub got the rebound and knuckled a hard shot just under the crossbar to give the Warriors a 1-0 lead. "Holly shot at the keeper, the keeper deflected it, and I just kicked it in," Raub said. "I was just hoping it didn't go over."

Jolene Harris increased the lead to 2-0 nine minutes into the second half. Maria Roady, another JV starter playing

with the big girls, fed Harris in the middle of the box, and Harris put a low shot past Klich.

Melissa Montgomery finished the scoring when her free kick from 35 yards out fooled Klich and squeezed into net. "We were happy to get by that one," Granite City coach Gene Baker said. "That was a good win for us. That puts us in a situation to maybe compete for a league championship."

West coach Bill Hauck said the Warriors picked up momentum and never let up. "Granite City definitely put it to us in the second half, there is no doubt about that," Hauck said. "We crossed the midline nine times in the second half, and that's not good. But (Granite) came to play."

The win over West came just one day after what Baker called "the most humiliating defeat in the history of the program," an 8-1 massacre at the hands of defending MSHSAA state champion Frontenac (Mo.) St. Joseph's Academy.

See WARRIORS, Page 3B

Warriors serve up steady progress

Squad pounds Flyers, falls to West

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The Granite City tennis team finally fit some matches around the spring weather

this week, and it came out excited about progress. The Warriors knocked off East St. Louis 9-0 on Tuesday. Eric Wright, Jason Woodson, Harry Painter and Jared McMillian took the forefront for the first time this year and swatted the Flyers hard, losing just five games among them.

"They just don't have a very good program," Granite City coach Allen Lobdell said. "We gave a lot of boys the chance to play. I didn't play my No. 1, Andy Balcer, or my No. 2, Tim Knowlton. I sat them out. Then I made a singles lineup and a doubles lineup, and I didn't repeat any of the boys and double them back. At least we used it as a chance to get some of the kids a little varsity experience. But their program is way down, and it was an easy win for us. It's hard to see what your boys are capable of or if there has been any improvement."

The Warriors had a tougher

"At this point, it's everything I could have hoped for with this season. We are getting some young kids some experience, and we are getting some real leadership out of the older kids."

Allen Lobdell
GCMS coach

time with things Wednesday against perennial foe Belleville West. Sophomore Balcer was the only Warrior to come out ahead in the 8-1 Maroons victory.

"Belleville West is a little down also, but down with them, down is relative," Lobdell said. "Andy played a wonderful match against another sophomore, Bret Zoran. He lost the first set again but came back and won the next two sets. So we were thrilled to death with that win. "But besides that, I was extremely pleased with the play from the rest of the boys.



Tim Knowlton lost in two close sets against his Belleville West opponent on Wednesday but coach Allen Lobdell praised his play.

(Assistant coach) Rafi (Karibian) and I were just excited about, number one, the conditioning. It really seems to be paying off. But number two, we are starting to see the

aggressiveness we were looking for earlier in the season. We are starting to see that from more and more of the kids.

See TENNIS, Page 3B

Warriors nab No. 2 in relays

Boast 4 first-places

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

It may have been the Freshman/Sophomore Tiger JV Girls TRACK on Thursday, but that was the big time in Granite City girls track.

The Warriors squad of seasoned underclassmen finished with 88 points, second only to O'Fallon's 100.

"In fact, this is our varsity team," Granite City coach Gene Briggs said. "These are our varsity girls and that's why they looked so tough. They were just killing people out there because they are used to the upper-class (competition)."

It was a real solid result. We didn't win, but we outdistanced Belleville East (76), Edwardsville (68), Belleville West (50), Jerseyville (18) and Bethalto (14). So we are not just middle-of-the-pack, we are upper echelon, we are at the top. And our girls certainly

See TRACK, Page 3B

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Warriors regain focus against West

Continued from Page 1B

"It was so much of a difference from yesterday," Baker said. "I thought really we got some quality play from two girls on the assists, Maria Rood and Holly Deroset. It was nice to see Jolene score. She came in, and I thought that was her best game of the year. Jamie Raub got a goal. She has been right around there. Melissa was everywhere. I thought Jessica Vasilioff played well. (Keri) Ouseley has been playing well. Amber Hubert is getting in better and better condition.

"It was a very good team win. We felt like we put a lot of pressure on them. I think it was more than a 3-0 game, and with everybody playing, it could have been a lot worse. It's very uplifting after yesterday's debacle.

The loss to St. Joseph's was compounded by the absence of suspended stars Erika Todd and Felicia Mohsen. But Thursday, the Warriors

showed a lot of spark in their step. They came out energetic, determined and structurally sound for the first time in a week.

"I don't know if it finally made sense to them when we talked before the game, but they seemed to be in a little better frame of mind when we went out on the field," Baker said. "We talked about how we have to move off the ball and be focused. You have to come to games to play, you can't just go out there and stand around and look and expect things to happen. And then not quitting, making your game from the beginning and all that kind of thing. The focus seemed to be there today."

Granite City improved to 4-2-1 overall, 3-1 in the SWC. The Warriors head into the tough St. Dominic Tournament Monday night at St. Charles (Mo.). Francis Howell without Todd and Mohsen — but with a renewed sense of purpose.

"We wish we were at full throttle, but we are not going to be," Baker said.

"We want to be as good as we can be. The first game is the home game, and that is to their advantage. It is a little ride for us at the wrong time of night, but we feel we can play with them. We didn't last year, we played St. Dominic in a torrential downpour, it was awful. This field we are playing on was not a good one at all when we played on it in the fall. It's very long, and it's pretty sluggish.

"We would like to play solid defense and play a good, close game and come away with a win. Then we have (Normandy, Mo.) Incarnate Word to battle without those two girls. If we can do that, then we are really going to be on our way. (Columbia, Mo.) Hickman we ought to be able to play with, at least on Thursday. And then we are ready to get back to normal, I hope."

West fell to 3-4-1 on the season, 1-2 in the Southwestern Conference. The Maroons host Belleville Altoh on Tuesday afternoon.

Tennis squad serves up improvement

Continued from Page 1B

"We realize that there are still an awful lot of things that we need to work on, but we are starting to see some dividends here. We are excited. We know that we are not on their level yet, but there were some competitive matches.

"Tim Knowlton lost in two close sets, the No. 1 doubles team lost in three sets, and our No. 3 doubles team lost in three sets. Those are all losses, but we played well. I think the boys surprised themselves with how competitive we were with the West team."

For a program still in the early stages of a rebuilding process, quality performances against the likes of the Maroons are a valuable step toward revitalization.

"We are excited and I think they have been practicing a little harder," Lobdell said. "We are just at the right point in the season right now, with one month left until the end, where we are actually starting to build up the intensity in practice instead of the other way around, instead of getting bored and having things kind of fall off. We are kind of building. At this point, it's everything I could have hoped for with this season. We are getting some young kids some experience, and we are getting some real leadership out of the older kids."

"Don't get me wrong, we still have minor problems, and we still take a step backward now and then. But I see some real progress, and I'm hopeful. I haven't felt this good at this point in the season for a long time. So we are just going to try to

keep the ball rolling."

The Warriors hit the courts Monday against Highland in Wilson Park before facing the Kahoks Wednesday at Collinsville.

Granite City 9, East St. Louis 0 (Tuesday)

- Singles**
 No. 1 — Eric Wright (GC) def. Gary Smith (ESL), 6-0, 6-1.
 No. 2 — Jason Woodson (GC) def. Victor Jackson (ESL), 6-1, 6-0.
 No. 3 — Harry Painter (GC) def. Brandy White (ESL), 6-1, 6-1.
 No. 4 — Jarod McMillan (GC) def. Dwayne Poe (ESL), 6-0, 6-1.
 No. 5 — Matt Davis (GC) def. Clarence Wise (ESL), 6-0, 6-1.
 No. 6 — Travis Thomas (GC) def. Maurice Mosley (ESL), 6-0, 6-0.
- Doubles**
 No. 1 — Matt Dittman and Larry Brantley (GC) def. Dwayne Poe and Gary Smith (ESL), 6-3, 6-2.
 No. 2 — Joe Kramer and William Kutsky (GC) def.

Brandy White and Clarence Wise (ESL), 6-2, 6-1.
 No. 3 — Justin Somers and Jon Ferry (GC) def. Maurice Mosley and Victor Jackson (ESL), 6-3, 6-0.

Belleville West 8, Granite City 1 (Wednesday)

- Singles**
 No. 1 — Andy Balcer (GC) def. Bret Zaron (BW), 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.
 No. 2 — Andy Renner (BW) def. Tim Knowlton (GC), 7-5, 7-5.
 No. 3 — Mike Demos (BW) def. Eric Wright (GC), 6-4, 6-0.
 No. 4 — Jay Haines (BW) def. Jason Woodson (GC), 6-0, 6-2.
 No. 5 — Matt Renner (BW) def. Harry Painter (GC), 6-0, 6-0.
 No. 6 — Will Irwin (BW) def. Jarod McMillan (GC), 6-3, 6-4.
- Doubles**
 No. 1 — Mike Demos and Clayton Mitchell (BW) def. Andy Balcer and Tim Knowlton (GC), 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.
 No. 2 — Jay Haines and Andy Renner (BW) def. Eric Wright and Jason Woodson (GC), 6-0, 6-0.
 No. 3 — Bret Zaron and Matt Renner (BW) def. Matt Davis and Jarod McMillan (GC), 6-2, 6-1.

Girls soccer

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Pool A (at Francis Howell North) — St. Charles County (Mo.) Francis Howell North, Affton (Mo.) Cor Jesu Academy, Wildwood (Mo.) Lafayette, O'Fallon.

Pool B (at St. Dominic) — St. Charles County (Mo.) St. Dominic, Hazelwood (Mo.) Central, Webster Groves (Mo.) Nerinx Hall, Chesterfield (Mo.) Parkway West.

Pool C (at Francis Howell) — St. Charles County (Mo.) Hickman, Granite City, Normandy (Mo.) Incarnate Word Academy.

Pool D (at Francis Howell Central) — St. Charles County (Mo.) Francis Howell Central, St. Charles (Mo.) Duchesne, Fenton (Mo.) Rockwood Summit, Frontenac (Mo.) St. Joseph's Academy.

MONDAY

A — Lafayette vs. Cor Jesu, 5 p.m.; O'Fallon vs. Howell North, 7 p.m.

B — Hazelwood Central vs. Nerinx Hall, 5 p.m.; St. Dominic vs. Parkway West, 7 p.m.

C — IWA vs. Hickman, 5 p.m.; Howell vs. Duchesne, 7 p.m.

D — Summit vs. St. Joseph's, 4 p.m.; Howell Central vs.

Duchesne, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

A — Cor Jesu vs. O'Fallon, 5 p.m.; Howell North vs. Lafayette, 7 p.m.

B — Parkway West vs. Hazelwood Central, 5 p.m.; Nerinx Hall vs. St. Dominic, 7 p.m.

C — Hickman vs. Howell, 5 p.m.; Granite City vs. IWA, 7 p.m.

D — St. Joseph's vs. Howell Central, 4 p.m.; Duchesne vs. Summit, 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

A — O'Fallon vs. Lafayette, 5 p.m.; Cor Jesu vs. Howell North, 7 p.m.

B — Nerinx Hall vs. Parkway West, 5 p.m.; Hazelwood Central vs. St. Dominic, 7 p.m.

C — Granite City vs. Hickman, 5 p.m.; IWA vs. Howell, 7 p.m.

D — Howell Central vs. Summit, 4 p.m.; St. Joseph's vs. Duchesne, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Semifinals (at Howell North)
 No. 1 seed vs. No. 2 seed, 4 p.m.
 No. 2 seed vs. No. 3 seed, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY

(at St. Dominic)
 Championship game, 6 p.m.

Track team boasts No. 2 slot at relays

Continued from Page 1B

deserve that with their fine performances."

The Warriors had four first-places and three second-places, all of which contributed heavily to the overall team success.

"Those are big points," Briggs said. "You get 10 points for first and eight points for second, so that's where we laid out a lot of our points, with the top finishes. To go along with the top finishes we also had a third, three fourths and three fifths. We scored in every event except one, and that was because we had no entries in the girls' high jump.

"As far as the other field events, we placed in the shot put, discus and triple jump, and we took first-second in the long jump. That kind of helped us finish real strong with our point standings. But we did place in every event on the track. So not only did we do well in the field, but we were very tough with our running events."

"Our first-place performances were in the distance medley and the 4 x 800. The same four girls ran those — Sarah Tester, Denise Mueller, Faith Yureisin and Penny Meyer. They were way ahead of the rest of the field, it wasn't even a contest. These girls compete at the varsity level every meet, so when they get a chance to run against people their own age there right now isn't even a

comparison, they are just head-and-shoulders above their age-group."

The Warriors also got a second-place finish from the sprinters, with a fourth-place finish out of the 4 x 100 relay squad, both of which consisted of Amber Ridgeway, Sarah Kuehnle, Nicole Bellman and Shannon Stapleton. Those four girls are permanent members of the varsity team.

"We were also really pleased with our 300-meter hurdle relay group, they finished in first place," Briggs said. "Amber and Sarah Kuehnle had the two fastest times of anybody at the meet, and then when we added in Stacie Marler, it once again put us ahead of all the other teams. It was a good team contribution in that area also. In the 4 x 400 relay, Shannon Stapleton dipped her split below 60 seconds, which is the first time we have had a girl run the state-qualifying time this year. We are real pleased with that. So not only were our places strong, to give us a real good finish in the meet, but our individual performances were outstanding."

The Warriors won't have long to savor the performance at Edwardsville. The girls head to Collinsville Monday for the Madison County Meet.

"We were real happy (with the Tiger Relays) and we are looking forward to the Madison County Meet," Briggs said. "We are hoping that, even though we are young, we can continue to perform well against varsity competition."

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O'Fallon board decides not to rehire Haas

By Scott Marlon
Staff writer

Doug Haas' 10-year tenure as head girls basketball coach at O'Fallon High School has ended.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

On April 15, the District 203 school board voted 7-0 not to rehire Haas for the 1999-2000 season. The board followed the recommendation of OTIS principal Dennis Grimmer, who felt the school should hire a new coach.

"Mr. Grimmer called me down about a week (before the board meeting) and said he was going to recommend (the board) dismisses as coach because he wanted to go in new direction," said Haas, who believed complaints from the parents of players led to his dismissal. "I met three times with him and other administrators. I only had conversations with two parents all year long, but he said he had talked to the parents of all seven top players in his office during the year."

"Our athletic handbook says we should follow a change of command. If the parents had problems with me, I should have been told about their concerns. (Grimmer) said the parents were intimidated by me, but he never said anything about it. How can I fix something if I don't know it's broken?"

Grimmer, though, said he had spoken to Haas previously about the need to change certain aspects of his coaching style.

"This was not initiated by the board," Grimmer said. "It was a decision made by myself and the athletic director (Steve Oliver) after talking to a whole different number of sources."

"Doug did some great things for our girls basketball program, but there were some things I asked him to work on that he wasn't able to get a handle on. I consider Doug a friend and he's always worked hard, but I felt it was time for a change."

Over the past six years, O'Fallon has an average record of 17-10. The 1998-99 Panthers surpassed Haas' expectations by winning 14

Coach dismissed after 10 years, 140 wins

games and claiming a regional title. His career record is 140-123.

"This may not seem outstanding, but for the first several years of my tenure, I was assigned inexperienced assistant coaches who I had to teach the finer points of the game to go along with my players," Haas said. "With the hiring of Jon Burnett six years ago, I was able to focus my attention solely on the players and allow him to participate with new and creative ideas. That is the main reason why we have been one of the elite programs in the area for the past six years."

"During this time, of the 17 girls who had graduated from the program, nine have gone on to play college ball and five more have expressed interest or tried out for the team at their current place of education."

Haas said Grimmer's first point to him was that Haas is too negative.

"If a kid is doing something wrong, would you rather have me pull them out of the game and put someone else in, or have me bark at them and try to get them to correct their mistakes?" Haas said. "If I let it go, a kid on the bench will say 'Why am I not out here when I can do better and she's making mistakes and (Haas) is not saying anything?'"

Grimmer's second point to Haas was that the players' parents disliked him, but Haas noted the support he received at the board meeting from Greg Tyler, father of ex-Panthers standout Jamie Tyler.

"Greg and I, to put it in a nice way, have had more 'conversations' than other parent I've dealt with," Haas said. "He said he didn't agree with what I said in a lot of cases, but he could understand where I came from. This year, though, instead of coming to me first, some parents went above me (to talk to Grimmer)."

"Mr. Grimmer also expressed concern that our numbers are down and we're not getting the best athletes out for basketball. He

mentioned three athletes that didn't want to play for me, but that's not true. One of those girls quit to focus on volleyball after her freshman year, one is medically ineligible to play and the other girl played two years and decided the amount of work wasn't worth the reward."

"This really came out of the clear blue for me because all of my evaluations (from Oliver) have been outstanding. How this comes up one year and all of a sudden they can fire somebody who has had outstanding evaluations is beyond me."

Haas continues to coach freshman baseball at O'Fallon. An industrial technology teacher who can also teach physical education, he said he would still like to coach girls basketball.

"I haven't thought much about it because it's the middle of baseball season, but it's frustrating," Haas said of his dismissal. "You put so much into it and you're gone like that."

According to Grimmer, a timetable has not been set for naming Haas' replacement.

"We have several applications and letters at this point from quality persons who may have the strengths we're looking for," Grimmer said. "We're hiring quite a few new staff members, but a couple current staff members who could be very good candidates have also expressed interest."

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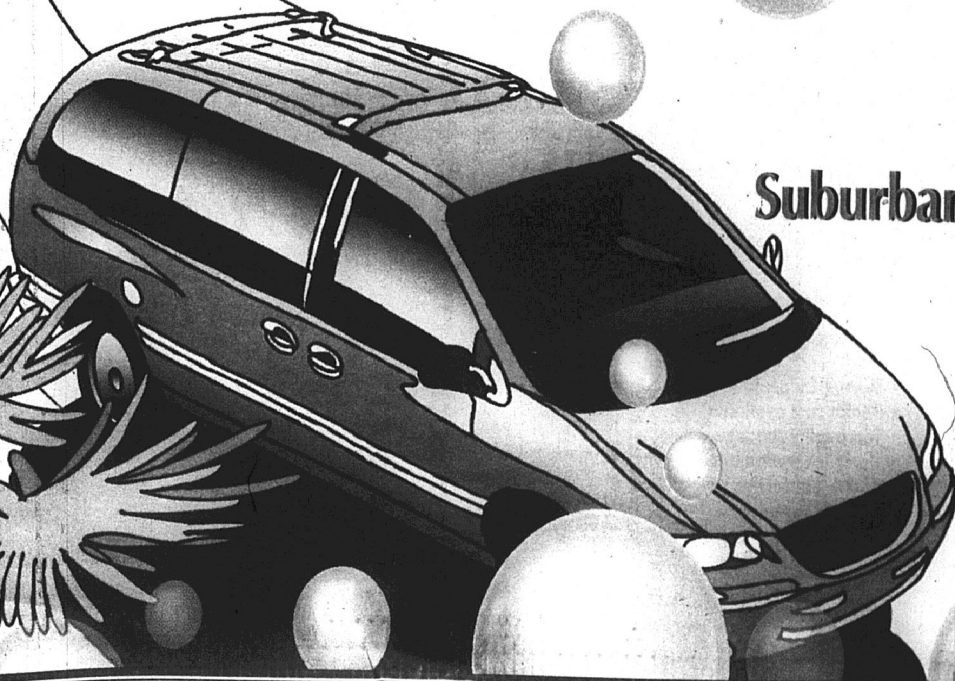
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Vehicles' lights are an important safety factor

How often have you had to brake suddenly with another driver right on your tail? Your eyes dart to the rearview mirror, hoping he'll see your brake lights in time.

But what if your brake lights aren't working properly? There's better than a 50/50 chance they're NOT, according to figures from a survey by American Automobile Club of Cleveland, Ohio.

They found 55 percent of vehicles checked had brake lights that needed some kind of repairs. This was by far the most prevalent mechanical discrepancy found during a Car Care Clinic.

Bob Knop, manager of the Club's Approved Auto Repair Department, which conducts the clinics, says most problems were found with the third brake light, generally because of a burned out bulb.

Our subconscious response to lighting

"We've grown to depend on lighting to signal our intentions," says Jack Oliver, manager for the G.E. Automotive Lighting Division. "We respond almost subconsciously to fellow motorists' turn signals, brake lights or emergency flashers. It's a form of communication as vital to driving as road signs and center land marking. When they're missing we're unaware of the danger ahead."

Another common lighting problem, according to Oliver, is found on vehicles with four light systems with separate units for high and low beams. Because the high beam lamps are replaced less often the lens is subjected to years of abuse from pebbles and other road debris.

Eventually hair-line cracks develop and moisture works its way inside, corroding the reflector. The unit may appear to be working OK but it is not putting out as much light as it should.

Lights on for safety
"Some day it may be wide spread practice in the U.S., as it is in Canada and Sweden, that the headlights be turned on whenever the car is driven. It's a proven safety measure and already is the law in the U.S. on two-wheeled vehicles where lights automatically turn on with the ignition switch.

"Obviously, they are more visible to other drivers," says Oliver.

"An Avis traveler safety study showed vehicles with daytime running lights (DRL)

had a better accident record than vehicles not so equipped."

But lights are worthless if they are not working, Oliver emphasizes.

All exterior lights should be checked periodically, not only for burned out bulbs and flashers but also for poor illumination of headlamps due to damaged reflectors.

The best way to check your system is to have one person turn on the lights, the emergency flashers and turn signals and apply the brakes while someone else walks around the vehicle to see that everything is working.

It's also a good habit during every gas fill-up to check for dirt (and ice) on all lenses, front and rear. To help maintain cleanliness you can apply a glass treatment such as RAIN-X to help repel rain, sleet, and snow.

Proper headlight aim is important

At one time or another, most of us have been blinded by the glare of oncoming headlights. You flash your high beams to

signal the oncoming driver to dim his lights.

He responds by turning on his high beams, indicating it was low beams that had been blinding you. They were aimed too high.

Are you sure your headlights are not blinding you. They were aimed too high.

Are you sure your headlights are not blinding others? Here, from G.E., is the recommended way to check headlight aim.

1) Put your car on a 35-40 foot stretch of flat or evenly sloped pavement such as a driveway facing a wall or garage door.

2) Shine your low beams on the door from 2 to 3 feet away and outline the bright spots on the door with a pencil or tape.

3) Back the car to about 25 feet from the door. The top of the low beams should shine no higher than the top of the marks on the door or lower than the center of the marked circle.

If your vehicle has four headlights, the center of the

high beam (the inner or lower tow lights) should align with the top of the low-beam marks. If you have only two headlights, the high beams are automatically aimed when you aim the low beams.

For most accurate aiming take your vehicle to a professional. If, on the other hand, you're a "do-it-yourselfer", follow these instructions from G.E..

Remove the outer trim for access to the adjustment screws. To raise the beam, turn the top adjustment screw

clockwise; counter clockwise to lower the beam.

Turn the side adjustment screw clockwise to move the beam to the right and counterclockwise to move it to the left.

Bring each beam into its final position by turning the adjusting screws clockwise so the headlamp will be held against its tension springs when the operation is completed.

If your lights continue to be out of adjustment, consult a service technician.

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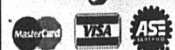
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Tips to maintain high quality look

If you own a new vehicle, or a not-so new vehicle, you want the finish to maintain a high quality look. Here are some simple tips to follow to help ensure your finish will look its best.

✓ Wash off dirt prior to washing a car. Any dirt that is rubbed into the surface can cause scratches.

✓ Wash your car in the shade using cool water and a mild detergent.

✓ Rinse off as much soil as possible before washing. Allow water to sheet off the

car by taking the nozzle off the hose when rinsing.

✓ Clean the tires first, then the wheels. Cleaning the wheels is important since the brake dust and road salt can cause irreversible corrosion.

✓ Wash in straight lines, not circles, and use overlapping strokes to make less standing water for you to dry off.

✓ Wipe it with a damp or wet cloth, not dry.

✓ Avoid parking under trees which may drop sap.

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Signs That Your Wiper Blades Need to be Replaced

Here are some tips that will help your customers maintain safe driving vision and help you secure additional wiper sales:

▶ Replace worn out or damaged blades. Check for these common problems:

STREAKING

Caused by dry rubber that has hardened and cracked. Streaking can also be caused by tree sap, road tar or other foreign substances on the blade rubber.

CHATTERING

Caused by the "permanent set" or "curve" in the rubber, some wiper blades develop while they are parked. This condition is characterized by the chattering sound the blade makes as it passes over the windshield.

WORN RUBBER

General rounding of the wiping edge caused by long service.

SPLIT RUBBER

A condition found on blades that are old. Sometimes due to the effects of the sun's ultraviolet rays on the rubber.

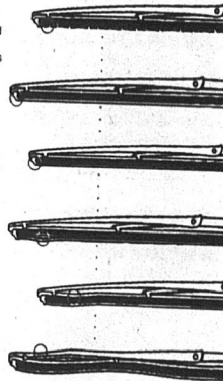
BENT REFILL VERTEBRA*

Sometimes caused by an automatic car wash or vandalism.

BENT WIPER FRAME*

Sometimes caused by an automatic car wash or vandalism.

*CAUTION: Do not attempt to refill wiper blades that are bent, distorted or badly worn. Replace them with new wiper blades to avoid the possibility of damage to the windshield.



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Old car can be beautiful Maintenance important for long auto life

Remember when we thought about trading the old car in when it got to be about 6 years old? That's what people did in the mid-1970s. New car fever has calmed down considerably as new car prices soar; with an average new car sale, including tax, now beyond \$20,000. Average car age now is 8.3 years.

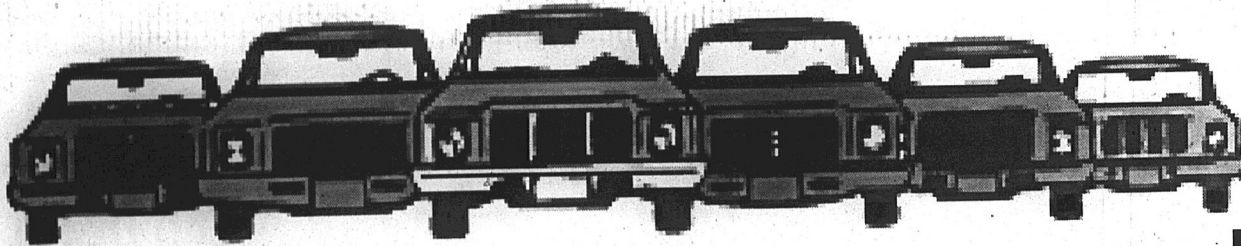
A new Ford in 1934 cost \$785 complete with heater and bumper guards. That's the car, incidentally, driven by Bonnie and Clyde when they made their getaway from Topeka. They drove it 7,500 miles in 23 days before their fatal ambush.

Whether or not you plan to run it forever, as some people vow they'll do, or keep the car just a little longer, taking care of needed maintenance is a must. Generally, your most economical transportation is the vehicle you already own. So fixing it up makes good economic sense.

It certainly pays in terms of safety and driving efficiency, emphasizes the Car Care Council, which advocates investing in needed maintenance a few thousand miles too soon rather than too late. Why jeopardize the safety of performance of your car by delaying needed repairs until the 11th hour when you know you'll inevitably be spending that money anyway.

Delaying brake work, for example, not only is dangerous, it can be very costly due to excessive wear of rotors and/or drums. A neglected engine is inefficient and vulnerable to rapid wear. Driving with worn shocks or struts affects both comfort and safety.

Spending money on car care may not be as exciting as anew appliance, but it does protect the second biggest investment most families make.



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Car Care Guide

April 25, 1999 — Granite City Journal — Page 4D

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Today's touring tires offer performance and ride comfort

When it comes time to purchase a new set of tires, today's consumer has plenty of choices. In the old days, tires were offered in only a few basic categories, primarily summer or snow. Later, all-season and high performance tires were added to the mix.

Today, however, the tire market in the United States has become extremely specialized, following the growing specialization and sophistication of automobiles.

For example, the growing numbers of luxury performance automobiles on the market today, such as Lexus, Infiniti and Lincoln Continental, have helped create an entire segment of tires known as touring tires. And as the technology developed for these luxury vehicles has trickled down to mainstream sedans, touring tires have become one of the fastest growing segments in the tire industry.

Previously, tire engineers had designed and built their high-ended tires for two distinct categories, the sports car and the luxury automobile.

"True touring tires offer a broad spectrum of attributes to complement the growing sophistication of today's automobiles."

Art Michalik

What mattered most for the sports car enthusiast was the thrill of seat-of-the-pants driving. This type of enthusiast wanted a tire featuring tenacious cornering with quick and responsive handling.

On the other hand, luxury cars demanded the exact opposite: a plush comfortable ride that cushioned the driver from the discomforts of the road.

The evolution of the luxury performance automobile created the need for a new type of tire, one that delivers a fairly high level of performance handling, while at the same time, provides a remarkably quiet and smooth ride.

Today's touring tire, such as the new generation of Turanza, provides an excellent example of just how far tire technology has come, said Art Michalik, Bridgestone consumer products marketing manager.

"Just 10 years ago, a tire like the Turanza was not technically possible. If consumers wanted a high performance tire, they had to sacrifice ride comfort and vice versa," Michalik said. "True touring tires offer a broad spectrum of attributes to complement the growing sophistication of today's automobiles."

The Turanza T is an example of another trend in the tire industry: the lifetime warranty. Yes, that's right. Bridgestone is backing its T speed-rated Turanza with a lifetime treadwear warranty, which offers free tire replacement if the tire wears

down to 2/32 of an inch tread within the first three years, or replacement with a new tire at a 50 percent discount after three years, for as long as the original purchaser owns the vehicle. Bridgestone and other major tire companies are now able to offer such warranties because of tremendous advances made in rubber compounding and tire design. For instance, the Turanza tread compound consists of a new patented carbon black called LL Carbon (long-lined carbon) which greatly inhibits irregular wear. The LL Carbon is the main reason why the new Turanza T delivers a 20 percent improvement in tread wear over the Turanza S, which it is replacing. The Turanza S was backed with an 80,000-mile limited treadwear warranty.

You will pay more for tires with lifetime warranties, but if you plan to keep your cars for awhile, they are definitely worth considering.

"When it comes time to replace the tires, consumers should certainly be aware of the touring tire option," Michalik said. "And they should not assume that their automobile is too mainstream to benefit from touring tires. In fact, Turanza touring tires can greatly enhance the ride quality of a more affordable sedan like an Accord or Taurus due to the less expensive noise suppression and ride control equipment that is standard. The smooth, quiet ride is more noticeable on a car without 100 pounds of insulation than in one with it."

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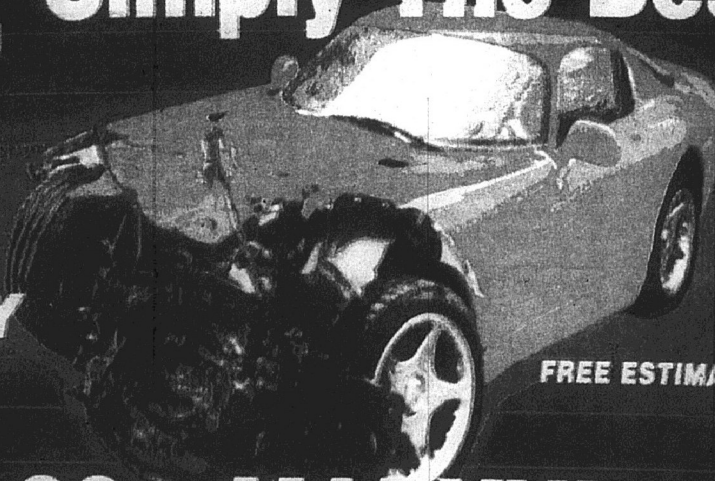


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